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6 Zulus killed in S. African feud

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Six men were killed in an outbreak of violence between rival clans of South Africa's Zulu tribe near the Indian Ocean port of Durban, police said Friday. The men's bodies were discovered on Thursday at Umbumbulu and a police spokesman attributed the clash to a power struggle between the Makanya and Embos factions of the Zulu, which with six million members is the country's biggest tribe. Enmity among black tribes and factions, caused by issues ranging from disputes over women to battles for influence, often erupts into violence in white-ruled South Africa. Last Christmas Day more than 60 people were killed in a Zulu-Pondo clash. Violence stemming largely from discontent over apartheid racial segregation policies continued overnight. Police reported no casualties but said homes and vehicles were damaged during petrol bomb attacks in black townships.

NAM ministers to meet in Delhi

NEW DELHI (AP) — Foreign Ministers attending a conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) next week will discuss nuclear disarmament, international terrorism and the U.S.-Libyan conflict, an Indian spokesman said Friday. Fifty-one foreign ministers are scheduled to attend the April 16-19 meeting in New Delhi of the 101-nation movement's coordinating bureau. The conference precedes the non-aligned summit meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, later this year. India has headed the movement since the last summit in New Delhi in 1983. India's Minister of State for External Affairs K.R. Narayan told a news conference that nuclear disarmament was the "overriding issue" in India's draft declaration. "Ultimately it is up to the nuclear weapons states themselves to begin the process of nuclear disarmament," Foreign Minister Bali Ram Bhagat said in a speech later Friday.

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Mexican speaker praises King

MEXICO CITY (Petra) — Speaker of Mexico's Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Elso Mendoza Beruta on Friday paid tribute to His Majesty King Hussein's relentless efforts for peace, justice and stability in the world at large. Mr. Beruta's statement was made during a luncheon he hosted in honour of the participants of a conference of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) currently taking place in Mexico City. "My meetings with King Hussein during his visit to Mexico have left a great impression of his leadership personality," Mr. Beruta told his guests. Jordan's Parliament Secretary General Hani Khair delivered a speech during the lunch and presented Mr. Beruta with King Hussein's Golden Jubilee Medal.

Israel claims it can counter Syrian missiles

TEL AVIV (R) — The head of Israel's anti-aircraft command was quoted on Friday as saying his forces could counter the type of long-range ground-to-ground missiles employed by Syria. Brigadier-General Yaviv Eitan told the newspaper Maariv that Israel now had locally-produced equipment capable of countering Syria's sophisticated Soviet-made SS-21 missiles, which include Israel in their range. Eitan did not specify whether the system included anti-missile missiles or electronic counter-measures.

Turkey arrests 10 suspected terrorists

ISTANBUL (AP) — Ten suspected terrorists planning attacks on consulates and the Turkish-Iraqi oil pipeline have been arrested, police announced Friday. The group included eight-Turks and two foreigners, one carrying a Moroccan passport with the name of Raisoumi Mohammed and the other a Tunisian passport issued to Ben Amir, the announcement said. The suspects were preparing to attack consulates in Istanbul and blow up the Turkish-Iraqi pipeline in southern Turkey when they were arrested 10 days ago, it said.

Waldheim receives copy of U.N. file

VIENNA (R) — Former U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has been given a copy of the U.N. war crimes commission file on him by Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlager, the president's office said Friday. A brief statement said the dossier, flown from New York on Thursday at the president's request, had been given to Dr. Waldheim asking for his comments.

Wu in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived in Tokyo Friday for a week-long visit, his first to Tokyo since anti-Japanese demonstrations erupted in several Chinese cities last fall. Mr. Wu is to attend the second regular ministerial talks with his Japanese counterpart Shintaro Abe. It will be Mr. Wu's fourth visit here as foreign minister.

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Mediterranean tension hits new peaks as U.S. gathers armada and Qadhafi warns South Europe

Combined agency despatches

TENSION ROSE to new heights in the Mediterranean on Friday amid reports that an armada of American aircraft carriers and battleships were waiting for a final decision in Washington whether to stage a military strike against Libya and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi threatening to attack any nation in Southern Europe if his country was attacked.

American officials refused comment on U.S. naval fleet movements in the Mediterranean but sources quoted by AP said two U.S. aircraft carriers had moved towards an expected rendezvous near Sicily to await orders from Washington.

Italy on Friday called for an urgent meeting of the Common Market foreign ministers to map a joint strategy to deal with the tension in the Mediterranean and "terrorist" threats, the Italian Foreign Ministry announced.

The announcement came after Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti met with his French counterpart Jean Bernard Raimond for more than two hours on "international terrorism" and the situation in the Mediterranean.

A ministry statement said Italy is asking for a meeting of the foreign ministers of the 12-nation trading bloc "as soon as possible" in order to seek measures to help avert another confrontation in the Gulf of Sirte.

The United States and Libya

had a missile shootout last month over Libya's claim to the gulf off its northern coast.

In Bonn, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl linked Libya Friday to the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque but cautioned the United States against taking military action against Tripoli.

Dr. Kohl told a news conference that Bonn had many indications that Libya had a hand in the bomb attack last weekend, in which an American soldier was killed, but said he was wary of what the consequences of possible U.S. reprisals would be.

He refused to comment directly on reports that the U.S. navy was assembling in the Mediterranean for a possible strike against Libyan targets, saying only that he saw no need at present to urge West Germans to leave Libya.

The chancellor also restated West Germany's opposition to economic sanctions against Libya, saying that this was a standpoint not always understood by Washington.

Bonn expelled two Libyan diplomats earlier this week in a move aimed partly at placating U.S. pressure for "reprisals" following the Berlin attack.

In Moscow, an official said the Soviet Union has not made any guarantees to the United States that it will not get involved if there is a U.S. military strike against Libya.

The official, a deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's press department, made the statement in response to questions at a news conference.

"There have been no guarantees concerning action or non-action on the part of the Soviet Union," said Valery Sukhin. "We cannot have any such guarantees, so generally the kind of report you refer to is, I am fully convinced, has no basis in fact."

Sukhin said the Soviet Union would provide assistance to Libya to defend itself against aggression from the United States.

In Tripoli, Colonel Qadhafi said Libya was ready to attack any country in Southern Europe in response to a threat "from the whole of NATO," the JANA news agency reported.

The dispatch quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying the Western alliance was threatening civilian targets in his country.

"Since the threat this time came from the whole of NATO, the whole of Southern Europe is today included in the Libyan counterattack plan, without any discrimination," Col. Qadhafi was quoted as saying.

Col. Qadhafi has said he will strike against NATO bases in Italy

and Spain and other countries that provide support for the U.S. Sixth Fleet if the United States launches an attack against Libya.

He said Libya rejects "unjust and insolent military threats which do not secure it at all," according to JANA.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said the United States is ready to retaliate militarily against Libya if it is proven that Col. Qadhafi backed the recent bombings of a TWA jetliner and the West Berlin discotheque.

In another dispatch, JANA said Libya had asked the Arab League to "inform the Arab Nation that NATO, Israel and the United States have agreed to confront Libya and launch aggression against it."

The dispatch said Libya wants Arab governments "to clarify their positions toward these conspiracies."

Sources quoted by AP said the U.S. carriers Coral Sea and America were nearing a point "where it won't take long to form a battle group and move out."

The Coral Sea, ordered out of port in Malaga, Spain, on Thursday, was described by the sources as steaming eastwards and currently located to the south of Sardinia. The carrier America, which departed Livorno, Italy, on Wednesday, was said to be steaming to the north and west of Sicily.

"They're steaming toward each

(Continued on page 3)

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Western allies delay security talks, page 8

Secret 'security' matters delay Peres-Shamir compromise pact

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Undisclosed "security matters" delayed final agreement on Friday on a compromise between Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to solve Israel's domestic political crisis.

Peres and Shamir, leaders of the Labour Party and Likud Bloc, were due to finalise an agreement ending the six-day-old crisis, which threatened to topple the government.

However, after their talks on Friday morning officials said domestic issues were not raised. They said topics relating to "security" and foreign affairs were discussed instead, but would not elaborate.

Israel Radio reported that relations with Egypt and possible Middle East peace moves were discussed.

It said another topic discussed was talks between Israel, the United States and Egypt on granting limited "autonomy" to the occupied Gaza Strip.

The political platform adopted this week by Peres' Labour Party included a text effectively relinquishing Israeli claims to Gaza under a regional peace agreement.

Peres and Shamir were to meet later on Friday to settle the coalition crisis. Senior Labour sources told Reuters it was "nearly certain" there was to be agreement.

Peres has sought to dismiss Likud Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai, who had made disparaging remarks about the prime minister.

Likud leaders first threatened to leave the cabinet but later agreed to a compromise under which Modai would trade jobs with Shamir until October, when Shamir is to become prime minister.

Under the coalition agreement, Shamir and Peres were to swap jobs in October but Labour Party sources said on Friday that Peres was holding out for the Finance Ministry for himself when he leaves the premiership.

The rotation agreement formed the basis of the coalition pact reached by Likud and Labour after

inconclusive elections in 1984.

Israel Radio reported that the new compromise was proposed by Likud's Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon in a secret meeting with Peres as early as last Monday. The deal was kept quiet until Thursday.

The political crisis broke during the Labour Party's national convention, which is held every four years. Even before the crisis, a powerful Likud faction urged Peres to scuttle the coalition accord and hold an early election, cashing in on his high popularity.

But Peres rejected the idea, and won overwhelming support at the convention's closing session Thursday night.

"We undertook to implement the rotation and I intend to keep our promise," Peres said.

The proposed cabinet reshuffle provided a face-saving formula for the Likud, which had earlier threatened to leave the government if the popular finance minister were forced to quit his job.

Iraq says 5 more hills recaptured

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq on Friday reported five strategic peaks captured from Iranian forces in a midnight attack on a mountainous area bordering the central Iraqi town of Mandali, 120 kilometres northeast of Baghdad.

A military communique said second army troops seized the peaks overlooking the Sumar Basin and Wadi Harran, previously used as a base for Iranian Gulf war attacks.

A number of Iranian troops together with weapons and equipment were captured and heavy casualties were inflicted, the communique said.

In another development, Iran has staked out its claims in the Gulf and threatened military action if the United States intervened against Tehran.

Navy commander Mohammad Hossein Malekzadegan said foreign ships should not enter a war zone in the Gulf amounting to the Iranian half of the waterway.

Guinness kidnap continues to baffle Irish police

DUBLIN (R) — Police said they had no firm leads in the hunt for the kidnappers of Irish banker's wife Jennifer Guinness as it was reported the gang has set a deadline on Friday for payment of a \$2.5-million ransom.

Police sources said the three armed men told John Guinness, chairman of Dublin merchant bankers Guinness and Mahon, that he had three days to pay the money when they took his wife at gunpoint from the couple's suburban home on Tuesday afternoon.

The group gave no details of how the money should be handed over and hours before the deadline was due to expire police said there had been no further message.

"We are satisfied that there has been no contact with them," a police spokesman said.

As the nationwide hunt for the kidnappers continued, the police were still unsure whether the abduction was the work of ordinary criminals or a political group. Detectives believe their behaviour pointed to the work of common criminals but they have not ruled out republican guerrilla groups fighting against British rule in Northern Ireland.

The gang called its leader "colonel" and referred to an "organisation" while taking money and tying up three people, including John Guinness, who is distantly related to the brewing family.

Police say that while these incidents and the gang's apparent indecision pointed to the work of ordinary criminals, the abduction could be a fund-raising bid by a republican group such as the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

The group has used kidnappings in the past to raise money for its campaign against British rule. "We are still keeping an open mind about who was responsible," one police spokesman said.

Forensic experts were examining a rusted Toyota car, similar to one used by the kidnappers, found abandoned eight kilometres from the Guinness home at Baily, in the Howth suburb of Dublin.

Bush warns of 'threats' to North Yemen from south

MARIB, North Yemen (AP) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush warned Friday of "threats to the stability" of North Yemen from its neighbour South Yemen.

Mr. Bush, the highest-ranking U.S. official to come here since 1972, also conferred Friday with President Ali Abdullah Saleh. No details on their meeting were available.

At a ground-breaking ceremony for a U.S. Embassy in Sana'a, Mr. Bush reiterated concern about the upheaval in neighbouring South Yemen, the Marxist state where an estimated 12,000 were killed early this year in a 12-day power struggle.

"America is a nation of peace and so we look with concern at the threats to peace in this region," Mr. Bush said, referring to the South Yemen unrest. "We are concerned both about the violence of the uprising itself and about the possibility of a regime in that country that does not respect the right and territory of its neighbours."

He also said "we look with alarm" at the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan.

But Mr. Bush did not address the issue of U.S. policy in the Middle East which Vice President Abdul Karim Abdullah Arashi strongly criticised on Thursday.

In a speech welcoming Mr. Bush, Mr. Arashi said the United States should pressure Israel to halt human rights violations against Arabs and support a Palestinian homeland led by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"We implore you to put an end to the Israeli violations of human rights, the rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestinian human being who is being subjected to mass annihilation inside his occupied land and outside," Mr. Arashi said.

It was the first public challenge of U.S. policy in the Middle East during Mr. Bush's four-country visit to the region.

North Yemen has close ties with Moscow but also has relations with the United States. It is the final stop on Mr. Bush's current trip that also has included Saudi Arabia, Oman and Bahrain.

Murphy and Israeli leaders hold talks on differences over Taba

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMERICAN special envoy Richard Murphy held talks with Israeli leaders on Friday which were said to have centred on narrowing Israeli and Egyptian differences over the disputed Red Sea enclave of Taba.

Mr. Murphy, the assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, who has been shuttling between Egypt and Israel paid a brief visit to Jordan on Thursday and was received by His Majesty King Hussein. The King and Mr. Murphy reportedly discussed the outcome of U.S. Vice-President George Bush's tour in Gulf Arab states.

"Mr. Murphy briefed the King on details of Mr. Bush's talks with leaders of Saudi Arabia and other states in the region," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported. Jordanian and U.S. officials here declined to comment on the outcome of Mr. Murphy's brief

visit. The assistant secretary unexpectedly arrived Thursday afternoon and left later in the evening.

Israel was the first stop in Mr. Murphy's shuttle in the region. The American envoy held talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo following his visit to Israel, but reporters were barred from the meeting and no statement was issued afterwards.

Israel Radio said on Friday that Israel, Egypt and the United States were preparing plans for limited "self-rule" in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres discussed the Israeli plans with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz when he visited Washington last week, the Associated Press quoted Israel Radio as saying.

"We are prepared to give civil self-rule to all the (occupied) territories, or to a part of them like Gaza, for example, as a start," the

Israeli premier was quoted as saying in a speech delivered to a Labour Party convention on Tuesday.

In a despatch from Tel Aviv, AP reported that preparations were being made in Gaza to receive 7,000 Palestinians who are to be returned to the area from a refugee camp in Egypt.

Bill Lee, press officer for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), said the first 25 heads of families would be brought next week to examine the plots of land Israel had prepared for them to build their homes, according to AP.

The agency quoted Mr. Lee as saying that Israel was giving land and infrastructure worth \$9,000 to each family, and Egypt was giving each family \$8,000 cash compensation for the loss of their homes in Camp Canada.

Mr. Murphy met Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin early Friday and was expected to meet Mr. Peres later.

Soviet Union formally ends moratorium on nuclear tests

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union announced on Friday that it had ended its self-imposed ban on nuclear tests because of a U.S. detonation on Thursday and accused the United States of putting its own aims before those of the world.

A government statement said the test in the Nevada desert demonstrated that the Reagan administration wanted to keep the world in fear of universal nuclear annihilation.

"Once again Washington has placed the egoistic, imperial ambitions of the United States military-industrial complex ahead of the interests of mankind," the statement, carried by the official news agency TASS, said.

The statement said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had warned Washington last month that if it conducted a nuclear explosion after March 31 Moscow would be forced to resume testing.

"Since the United States has conducted a new nuclear test despite those warnings, Moscow is

now free from its unilateral commitment to refrain from conducting any nuclear explosions," it said.

The Soviet moratorium began last August and was originally due to expire at the end of last year. Mr. Gorbachev later extended it until March 31 and then offered not to conduct tests from that date if the United States followed suit.

The Soviet statement made no mention of when Moscow might conduct its next test. It reaffirmed the Kremlin's readiness to return to the subject of a joint U.S.-Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests.

"The Soviet Union believes, as before, that an end to nuclear weapons testing would be an effective practical step leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons and is expressing readiness to return any time to the question of a mutual moratorium," it said.

"At the same time, the Soviet government again reaffirms its proposal to start immediately talks on a full prohibition of nuclear weapons testing."

lear weapons testing.

"The USSR is prepared for any form of talks, any type of agreement on that score, provided things advance towards reaching an agreement."

The statement repeated an offer by Mr. Gorbachev last month to meet U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Europe "in the immediate future" to conclude a test ban treaty.

The offer was distinct from an agreement by Mr. Gorbachev at his summit with Mr. Reagan in Geneva last November for a superpower meeting in the United States this year.

In Canberra, U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the United States would continue its nuclear testing programme because it was essential to test the reliability of modern nuclear weapons.

Mr. Weinberger, speaking at the national press club in Canberra, said the tests were to ensure that Washington maintained an effective nuclear deterrent.

Berri vows to break Christian presidency

BEIRUT (AP) — Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri vowed in a newspaper interview published on Friday to "prevent by force" the election of another Maronite Catholic as Lebanon's president unless Christians share power equally with Muslims.

Mr. Berri told Beirut's Al-Hakika daily that he expects President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite, to complete his six-year term that expires in September 1988.

"But I shall prevent by force the imposition of another Maronite as president if Gemayel's term expires without achieving the necessary political settlement of the Lebanese crisis," Mr. Berri was quoted as saying.

Mr. Berri's statement indicated that he does not believe a campaign by Syrian-backed Lebanese factions to oust Mr. Gemayel will succeed in the near future.

The beleaguered Gemayel, 44, has refused to step down until his term ends.

The Maronites are the dominant sect among Lebanon's 1.6 million Christians. They have held the presidency under a power-sharing formula worked out when Lebanon gained independence from France in 1943.

The prime minister has always been a Sunni Muslim and the parliament speaker a Shi'ite. But the Maronites have dominated power by also holding the top military, judicial and central bank posts.

Muslims, who now make up 55 per cent of Lebanon's four million citizens, have been fighting for an equal share of power in an 11-year-old civil war.

Mr. Berri and other leftist leaders have called for Mr. Gemayel's resignation following the president's rejection of a Syrian-backed peace pact that would have phased out the sectarian system and given Muslims more say in government.

Vatican mediators who visited

Beirut last month failed to break the political deadlock created when the pact collapsed amid inter-Christian fighting last January.

"There is no papal initiative... the papal move was sort of further Christmas who came late," said Mr. Berri who was reelected last month for a further two years as leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia.

In the latest wave of violence in Lebanon, two people died and 33 people, including 18 women and children, were injured when a car packed with explosives blew up in a crowded shopping street in the southern port of Sidon on Friday.

Militiamen later found and defused a second car bomb parked 40 metres away after arresting two men behaving suspiciously near the vehicle, they said.

"I escaped, with my baby by a miracle — parts of the car flew into our building through a wall," said a woman who was indoors 10 metres from the explosion.

The blast, estimated at 100 kilograms of TNT, was the third in the Sidon area and followed bombings in Beirut that have killed more than 60 people this year.

The explosion shot glass shivers into pedestrians, blew out doors and windows in 50 buildings, and set ablaze shops and offices and about 100 vehicles. One of the fatalities was a man who had a heart attack from the shock of the blast.

Injured people ran bloodied and screaming from the scene as militiamen fired bursts of machine-gun fire into the area to clear the way for ambulances and fire engines.

Investigators found a note in the second vehicle indicating bombers planned to blow it up by remote control 10 minutes after the first blast, one source told Reuters. A malfunction had prevented further "catastrophe," he added.

Kidnapped French teacher rescued, page 2

Truce force formed around Beirut camps

BEIRUT (AP) — Gunfire cracked around Beirut's refugee camps on Friday as Syrian truce observers sought to form a 200-man disengagement force of neutral militiamen to separate warring Lebanese militiamen of the Shi'ite Amal movement and Palestinian fighters.

Police said six people were wounded in night-time sniper clashes around the Shatilla and Bourj Al Barajneh camps on the 14th day of fighting for control of the shantytowns on Beirut's southern outskirts.

That raised the known casualty toll to 49 dead and 305 wounded since the current round of militia attacks against Palestinian camps.

The disengagement force is part of a Syrian-sponsored agreement announced in Damascus Wednesday night.

It would be made up of irregulars from the Progressive Socialist Party of Walid Junblatt, the Communist Party, the Socialist Baath Party and Lebanon's Syrian Social Nationalist Party.

Spokesmen for a security committee sponsoring peace moves said Syrian army observers expect to complete the formation of the force this weekend.

The agreement, the latest in a long line of accords, calls for a comprehensive ceasefire and the withdrawal of Amal militiamen "once and for all" from around the camps.

The Palestine National Salvation Front will take control of the camps under this agreement. The front groups six Syrian-backed factions.

Amal attacked Shatilla, the neighbouring Sabra camp and Bourj Al Barajneh in a one-month offensive last summer. Police said 595 people were killed.

Another 53 people were killed and 250 wounded in another bout of fighting last fall.

Hunters rescue kidnapped French teacher in Bekaa

Irish teacher missing in Beirut

BA'ALBEK, Lebanon (Agencies) — Kidnapped French teacher Michel Brian was rescued by Lebanese hunters in the east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley early Friday after a shootout with his captors.

Brian, 42, was not hurt in the gunbattle on the outskirts of the ancient Roman town of Ba'albek. "There was some gunfire and the kidnappers panicked and left me," Brian told a reporter shortly after the 2.30 a.m. rescue.

Brian told reporters he was kidnapped in militia-ruled Beirut Tuesday evening by gunmen who bundled him into a car.

He teaches French at the College Protestant Francaise, a private school.

The Frenchman was rescued only hours before an Irish teacher, Brian Keenan, disappeared in kidnapping-plagued Beirut Friday and was feared kidnapped.

The hunters stumbled on the three or four gunmen sitting in a parked car with the Frenchman, blindfolded and his hands tied behind his back, as they apparently were trying to move him from a hideout in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa.

The gunmen drove off after dumping Brian in a ditch, still blindfolded and bound.

The three hunters, all members of the Dandash family, took the Frenchman to their home at Ras Ba'albek, 24 kilometres north east of Ba'albek.

Hassan Mustafa Dandash, the head of the clan, alerted the Syrian army and called in an old villager who spoke French to translate while they talked to Brian.

A Syrian army force swept into the village and took Brian off to their intelligence headquarters at Anjar, south west of Ras Ba'albek.

The Syrians later were believed to have left Anjar with the Frenchman in a military convoy heading for Damascus, the Syrian capital.

Brian said he was grabbed in west Beirut's Makdissi Street in the Hamra Commercial District near a flower shop Tuesday.

French sources had said earlier he was kidnapped Wednesday morning as he walked to work.

Brian said in an interview: "A gunman with a thick black beard

came up to me and said in English, 'don't talk, don't scream.'

"Then he pushed me into the trunk of a Renault car. We drove for about 1½ hours," he said.

"Then we stopped. They put me in the trunk of another car, a bigger car, and we drove for about an hour. They put a blanket on the floor and covered me with another one."

Brian added: "They took me to a house and asked me if I was a military man. Then they accused me of being an Israeli spy."

"I was blindfolded all this time and I didn't see any faces. I don't know who they are, whether they are Shi'ite Muslims or not."

A previously unknown group calling itself the Siffine Islamic Organisation, believed to be a Shi'ite faction, Thursday claimed it kidnapped Brian.

An anonymous caller claiming to speak for the group telephoned a Western news agency in west Beirut. He made no demands, but said another communiqué would be issued after "his interrogation has been completed."

Brian said he was not mistreated during his three-day ordeal.

"They showed kindness," he said. "They did not abuse me or maltreat me."

"I had everything I needed, water, medicine... I had a newspaper. I could listen to the radio and I could move freely around the room in which I was locked."

He added: "I'm a teacher, not a politician. I don't talk politics in Lebanon."

"I came here to teach French. I don't understand the Lebanese problem, politics does not concern me. I would have responded to their questions if I had been something else, but I'm only a teacher."

Brian said of his rescue: "I was very lucky. The kidnappers drove away, leaving me after the shooting."

"I didn't know what was happening. I was in the ditch. Then these three men came up and took

off the blindfold and released my hands.

"They didn't talk English or French. But I understood they were there by accident while they were hunting. I went with them in their car to their place."

"It was only then that they actually knew who I was. I told them I was the French teacher kidnapped three days ago."

Brian said the hunters told them they had been out hunting rabbits. "I said, 'You've got yourself a big rabbit then!'"

Meanwhile Irish diplomats in Beirut hunted Friday for missing Irish teacher Brian Keenan, saying he might be the latest foreign kidnap victim in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

"We are trying to contact all parties to establish where he might be," said an Irish diplomat. "This man is harmless. He has no axe to grind and no political involvement."

Colleagues said Keenan, a 35-year-old English-language teacher, had not arrived for work at the American University of Beirut (AUB) after they saw him leave home alone on foot.

"The university has contacted (Shi'ite Muslim militias) Amal and Hizbollah and the PSP — the mainly-Druze Progressive Socialist Party — to ask for help," said a colleague.

"Keenan might be kidnapped. Things are so much worse than last year with all kinds of groups running around," the diplomat said.

AUB lecturer Leigh Douglas and English-language teacher Philip Padfield, both Britons, disappeared two weeks ago and British diplomats fear they may have been kidnapped.

Colleagues said Keenan, a bearded bachelor, was from Belfast, but added he was of Irish nationality and carried an Irish passport.

He had been in Beirut since November teaching at AUB in an English-language programme funded by Lebanese-born Saudi Arabian philanthropist Rafic Hariri.

"Brian took part in the sit-in (by Lebanese students) at AUB last week to protest at the AUB kidnappings," a friend said.

illness to complete his withdrawal from southern Lebanon when the bulk of its troops pulled out last year and harassment of UNIFIL by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia and other armed elements.

The U.N. chief expressed regret the had so far been unable to persuade Israel that its complete withdrawal from Lebanon and the deployment of UNIFIL up to the border would provide a better answer to Israel's security needs than its present reliance on a "security zone" it patrols with the SLA.

Mahdi to build up Sudan's army after elections

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese political leader Sadeq Al Mahdi said he will build up the armed forces against southern rebels if his Umma Party wins the general elections now underway.

Mr. Mahdi tipped to become prime minister later this month, said in an interview with Reuters: "We need to have armed forces credible enough to defend against foreign aggression and internal dissent. This kind of expenditure is an imperative we cannot discuss as if we have a choice."

Former President Jaafar Numeiri, overthrown last April, reduced the army to the extent that he gave the military advantage in the south to Col. John Garang of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Mr. Mahdi, a former prime minister, said in the interview Thursday night.

He added that, in parallel political and diplomatic initiatives to end the three-year-old southern war, he would try to make dialogue as appealing as possible to Col. Garang and reach a comprehensive deal with Ethiopia, the SPLA's main source of support.

Asked if he would pursue the present transitional government's policy of enlisting Arab military aid against the rebels, he said: "We will look at the matter from the point of view of enabling the Sudanese Armed Forces to take care of security."

The SPLA has portrayed recent military assistance from Libya, Egypt and Oman as evidence of a racially motivated Arab offensive against the rebels, who are mostly non-Arab Africans.

Diplomats said bringing in Arab aid had further alienated southerners, whose main complaint against the Khartoum government has been its emphasis on Sudan's Arab identity.

Mr. Mahdi said: "We do not think there is any point in making it into an Arab-African confrontation. That would defeat our own purposes. No one wants the nightmare of such a confrontation."

The Umma Party leader played down the importance of Libya's latest offer of union with Sudan, saying the ideas put forward by a Libyan delegation, now in Khartoum, hardly went further than the Arab League charter.

The Sudanese people would have the last word on Libya's proposals, he added. "We will move within the mandate of the people of the Sudan... we have to see what the people think of it."

The Libyan offer followed closely on urgent appeals for military assistance last month after the SPLA captured the southern town of Rumbek in a severe psychological blow for Sudanese army morale.

Mr. Mahdi said the appeal took the Sudanese authorities themselves had not given it much thought.

Indians sign up 'to crush U.S. imperialism'

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Thousands of impoverished Indians are jamming the Libyan embassy here to sign up as mercenary soldiers and "crush American imperialism."

More than 6,000 men, some travelling hundreds of miles from their villages, have filled forms this week seeking recruitment in the "Islamic Army of Libya."

"They want to help us in the war against American imperialism," spokesman for the Libyan embassy or "people's bureau" Abu Bakr said in an interview Friday.

The Indian government has objected to recruitment of its citizens and the Foreign Ministry summoned Libyan Ambassador Omar Ahmad Hadallah Al Ankali Friday to express concern.

The conduct is contrary to what is expected of diplomatic missions," a Foreign Ministry spokesman told the Associated Press.

Both India and Libya are members of the 101-nation Non-Aligned Movement headed by India. Relations between the two countries are formal and correct, but not warm. India has criticised

the United States but has not endorsed Libya in their conflict, despite pressure from Arab countries.

A U.S. embassy press spokesman said the U.S. government has "taken note of the (recruitment) matter and discussed it."

Mr. Abu Bakr said the Indians, mostly Muslims, are answering an advertisement published in Urdu language newspapers three weeks ago seeking recruits from Arab and Islamic countries to help "crush American imperialism."

Thousands have been lining up in a carnival like scene, including ice cream vendors and popcorn sellers.

Mr. Abu Bakr said the ad was placed at about the same time that U.S. forces struck Libyan targets in the disputed Gulf of Sirte. The Indian Foreign Ministry said Libya has promised that the advertisements will not be published again in India and that they were aimed only at Muslim countries, not at Indian citizens.

About 30,000 Indians are working in Libya, mostly in construction and technical jobs. Thousands of Indians mostly Muslims, go to Gulf countries every year seeking better jobs.

"I am dying of hunger here. I am aware I will be killed there in Libya but at least my children will be able to make a living, an unidentified recruit was quoted as saying in the Indian Express newspaper.

"What does it matter whether we die in Libya or in strife-torn Punjab," others were quoted as asking.

The Libyan spokesman said the embassy "let the Indian people express their solidarity with us" and said the response to the advertisement had been overwhelming.

"We have told the Indian government that a great number of Indians are coming here. They are aware," the spokesman said.

He declined to comment when asked why all Indians had stated their "purpose of visit" as military while he had insisted that they were only "expressing solidarity."

"I don't think we will need them," the Libyan spokesman said.

Balasubramaniam Kandawamy, a retired Indian Air Force sergeant, said he was told by friends that Libya wanted "volunteers."

"I am on the technical side. I can help in the maintenance department," said the 52-year-old Kandawamy who came from Madras city in southern Tamil Nadu state.

"It is not good political conduct to recruit in another country because India has different political stands on different issues," he said. "But I am not going to fight on the front."

Phulakant Jha, a mechanic from eastern Bihar state, India's poorest state, said, "I think they will take us to America."

"The battle is between the oppressor and the oppressed. America has the atom bomb, the hydrogen bomb. We will help Libya break the tyranny," said Shamsud Hussain, a farmer from northern Uttar Pradesh state.

"I can use the rifle. My aim is good and I am not scared of America," Hussain declared when asked if he had been in a war.

Sudan, Tunisia to get food aid

ROME (R) — Refugees and victims of drought in Sudan, Tunisia and Honduras are to get nearly \$10 million of emergency food, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said.

FAO said the aid would go to refugees from Ethiopia and Chad living in Sudan, victims of drought in Tunisia, and refugees from El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua living in Honduras.

FAO said the money would be provided from the resources of the World Food Programme.

Meanwhile Irish rock star Bob Geldof, who has already raised tens of millions of dollars to combat famine in Africa, said Thursday his new Sport Aid project will be his last major relief project.

Geldof, who organised a Band Aid concert in London and a subsequent Live Aid internationally televised concert, announced more than \$100 million, raised his backing for a 9.6 kilometre run on May 25 aimed at raising millions of dollars more.

More than 40 cities around the world are already pledged to take part in the charity run.

Geldof and James Grant, director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), announced earlier in the day in New York that they were co-sponsoring the fundraising event.

Funds are to be raised through the sale of T-shirts bearing the monogram, "I Ran The World May 25" and through corporate and personal sponsorships of individual runners.

The run will be officially launched when two Africans, one from Sudan and one from Ethiopia, light a symbolic flame in New York that day. Funds from the one-day campaign will be divided between UNICEF and Sport Aid.

Polisario pessimistic over Morocco's letter

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Polisario Front, fighting Morocco for control of Western Sahara, has said a letter from Morocco's King Hassan to the U.N. secretary general ruling out direct talks with the front had cast a cloud over talks here on the future of Western Sahara.

Polisario's U.N. observer, Madjid Abdullah, was speaking to reporters after the second day of separate meetings between the U.N. chief, Javier Perez de Cuellar, and delegations from Polisario and Morocco.

The Polisario and Morocco have been locked in a guerrilla war since 1976 when Spain relinquished the territory.

"This letter is discouraging. It has completely changed the atmosphere," Mr. Abdullah told reporters.

The king, who did not request circulation of his letter as a U.N. document, said he had agreed to the meetings here "on the express condition... that the negotiations will take place separately between

the parties to the conflict."

Polisario insists that the present preliminary talks result in direct negotiations, as called for in a general assembly resolution last December.

The talks are aimed at arranging a cease-fire in the desert war and a referendum on the future of the territory.

Moroccan officials could not be reached for comment after their meeting Thursday night with the secretary general.

Morocco, which effectively controls the former Spanish territory, has been waging a 10-year-old battle against the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas and refuses to hold direct talks.

The U.N. chief is seeing the two sides separately in so-called "proximity talks."

He spent about 45 minutes Wednesday morning at U.N. headquarters with the Moroccan team headed by Abbas Kaissi, secretary general of the government of Morocco.

During the late afternoon he met for about 30 minutes with the Polisario team, led by Mahfoud Ali Beiba, a member of the party's executive committee.

King Hassan said that while he did not object to the presence at the meetings of a special representative of the chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, Morocco would not be bound by any decision of the OAU.

Morocco quit the regional organisation in November 1984 after Polisario's self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic was admitted as a full member.

Commenting on the king's letter, Mr. Beiba told reporters: "Morocco's position is nothing new, particularly when we know that the only person who can take a position is the king."

He said the talks were being held under a resolution adopted last December by the General Assembly which called for direct negotiations between Morocco and Polisario.

Egyptians flock to see 'apparition of Virgin'

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Christians are flocking to a Cairo church every night to witness flashes of light that they believe are the Virgin Mary appearing.

For the past two weeks, the church of St. Damiana in the crowded, run-down Shubra area has been mobbed into the early hours by crowds seeking a glimpse of the purported apparition.

The indigenous Coptic Christian Church, to which an estimated six to seven million of mainly-Muslim Egypt's 49 million people belong, is investigating the phenomenon but has withheld judgment so far. Church officials say a statement may be made next week.

Egyptians are likening the event to previous reported apparitions, especially one in 1968 when thousands flocked for months to a church in Zeitoun, north of Cairo, to see what they believed was the Virgin appearing.

People who claim to have witnessed an apparition at St. Damiana's say they saw flashes of light on one of the crosses adorning the concrete facade of the 40-year-old church which nestles between low tenement blocks on a dusty street.

Some say they also saw white doves. Others say they saw a human figure, swathed in blinding light, in the shape of the Virgin Mary as commonly portrayed in religious statues.

Visiting the area one night this week, Reuters correspondents saw an estimated 2,000 people milling round the church, police on the lookout for any trouble and families arriving to see the event.

But the correspondents saw no apparition. Nor did any of the crowd claim to during the 90 minutes we spent on the spot.

A small group of Christians, clashing small cymbals, chanted in Arabic: "Hallelujah. Hallelujah, we are sinners and the Virgin has come again to save us."

The priest of St. Damiana's nessed an apparition at St. Damiana's say they saw flashes of light on one of the crosses adorning the concrete facade of the 40-year-old church which nestles between low tenement blocks on a dusty street.

Samuel Younan, was reluctant to discuss the phenomenon on the next day, referring the reporters to higher church authority.

"I cannot tell you what it is," he said. "There is light. It has been appearing every night since March 25."

A close aide to Pope Shenouda III, head of the Coptic Church, told Reuters: "There's something unusual happening there and that is why everybody is going."

Four senior church officials, sent to St. Damiana's to probe the incident, have reported back to the Pope, who will probably give his verdict next week, aides said.

Near the church, 14-year-old Adel Saleh was in no doubt that he and his mother had seen the mother of Jesus.

He said they had come several nights and had seen the Virgin Mary asleep between the church's two towers. "I think she may have come to wake people up to their sins," he said.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 7-111-11

23:00 News Summary
23:05 Country Music
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close down

PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 Koran
16:20 Cartoons
17:10 Children programme
18:00 Different Strokes
18:30 Arabic Series
19:30 News Feature
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
22:00 Arabic Play
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Play continued

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Ecole d'enfant
18:30 Kiosque a musique
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Comedy: Duty Free
21:00 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: Intervals

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 91.4 KHz FM
partly on 91.4 KHz FM
Tel: 7-111-11

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Show
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session cont.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Talking Points
17:30 Animal Vegetable Mineral
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 The 15th Century A.H.
20:30 The Young Sound
21:00 News Summary
21:05 25 Years of Rock
21:05 News Summary
22:00 The Blues

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1415 KHz

07:00 Newswest 07:30 Grand National
07:50 World Financial News 7:55 Reflections 08:00 World News 08:20 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 About Britain 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newswest 09:30 Meridian 10:00 World News 10:05 News Summary 10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45 Network U.K. 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News: Look Ahead 12:45 About Britain 13:00 Here's Humph 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 People and Politics 14:00 World News 14:05 News Summary 14:15 Radio Intercourse 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newswest 15:15 Anything Goes 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Network U.K. 16:45 Country Style 17:00 News Summary 17:30 Saturday Special 18:00 Baker's Half Dozen 18:15 Sunday Special 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 Saturday Special 20:00 World News: Book Choice 20:05 Sports Round-up 21:00 Newswest 21:30 Baker's Half Dozen 22:00 News Summary: The Sound of the Garden 23:00 World News 23:20 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 Jazz for the Aiding 24:00 News Summary: Byways of History 01:15 What's New 01:30 People and Politics 01:45 World News 01:50 From our own Correspondent

VOICE OF AMERICA

1260 MHz, 1200, 9565, 11740 11925 and 12120 KHz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News Summary 07:40 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Closeup 08:30 News Summary 08:40 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:30 News Summary 10:40 News Summary 10:50 News 11:00 News 11:10 Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:10 Special English News 19:45 & Features 20:00 News 20:10 News 20:20 News 21:10 Close-up 21:20 News 21:30 Special English News 21:40 News 22:00 News 22:10 American Viewpoints

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	(Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) Close Tuesdays
EXHIBITIONS	
"An art exhibition entitled: 'Jordan 86' at the French Cultural Centre (until April 17).	
"A photo exhibition of the Cordoba Mosque at the Spanish Culture Centre (until April 12).	
"Exhibition of paintings by Diana Shammout 5:00 p.m. - Petra Bank Gallery Wadi Saqra (until April 19).	
MUSICAL	
"The well-known American musical ANNE at 7:30 p.m. with Friday evening at 5:00 p.m. at the Royal Theatre Club (until April 21).	
THEATRE	
"Annie" — An English play by the Royal Theatre Club at 5:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until April 17).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267	
American Centre - 644371	
American Centre Library - 641520	
Jordan Council - 6361478	
French Cultural Centre - 637009	
Goethe Institute - 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre - 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre - 624049	
Tunisian Cultural Centre - 637111	
Haya Art Centre - 665195	
Hassan Youth City - 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. - 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251	
Amman Municipal Library - 637111	
University of Jordan Library - 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Palace Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill).	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leveidh, 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdal, 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 678906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 771331.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.	
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiah, 677534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church: Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.	
Rabwah Congregation (International, Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 606974.	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:45	Fajr
06:09	Sunrise Duha
12:37	Zuhr
16:15	Asr
19:04	Maghrib
20:28	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	22:00	Baghdad (IA)
	22:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
	22:30	Baghdad (RJ)
ARRIVALS		
06:15	Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)	
06:30	Baghdad (RJ)	
06:35	Belgrade (JU)	
07:15	London, Larnaca (BA)	
07:30	Cairo (MS)	
09:45	Agaba (RJ)	
10:35	Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
10:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)	
11:00	Cairo, Agaba (RJ)	
11:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	

Road accident claims two lives, injures 7 others

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two people were killed and seven others were injured in a road accident which occurred on the Sweileh-Baqaa road at noon on Thursday. The accident, near the town of Safout, involved a fuel tanker laden with 36 tonnes of oil which burst into flames, killing the driver and completely burning his vehicle, a mini bus and a pick-up truck which were travelling along the road. A civil defence spokesman said that the accident was caused when the truck driver seemed to have lost control over his vehicle due to faulty brakes. The truck sped down the hill hitting cars and rocks on the side of the road before finally bursting into flames.

Among those injured were four

road workers and occupants of the other cars, according to the spokesman. He said that the accident disrupted traffic, caused a cut in telephone and power lines in the region and caused the immediate death of the driver of the pick-up truck as well as a burning of two other vehicles.

Civil defence fire engines rushed to the scene of the accident from Amman, Sweileh and Baqaa and they fought the fire which also engulfed trees on the side of the road. The injured were rushed to the University of Jordan Hospital for treatment and a hospital spokesman said Friday that several of the injured have already been treated and discharged.



The fuel tanker laden with 36 tonnes of oil which burst into flames Thursday near Safout, killing the driver and completely burning his vehicle, a mini bus and a pick-up truck (Petra photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

King thanks Lawzi, Mhelan for cables

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mhelan have received cables of thanks from His Majesty King Hussein in reply to their congratulatory cables on the occasion of Isra' al Wal Mida.

Ministry to receive forensic equipment

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will receive equipment from West Germany worth DM 1.5 million to be used by the Ministry of Interior to help it promote its services. The gift from the West German Interior Ministry includes equipment for combating forgery, smuggling and drug trafficking. An agreement was signed Thursday by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed and West German ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels.

Mafraq elects new council

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Mafraq Municipality has a new council of 10 members who were elected Thursday. The council will serve for the coming four years. The two main blocs running for the election each won five seats in the new council with the lion's share of the votes going to Mr. Abdullah Ali Basbous (2,447 votes). Nearly 9,500 people took part in the voting under government supervision and ballot boxes were distributed to 16 different areas, according to Colonel Ahmad Al Rifai, the director of Mafraq police. He said that the elections went on smoothly and in an organised and calm manner.

Peruvian economy team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — An economic delegation from Peru arrived in Amman Friday on a three-day official visit to Jordan during which they will meet with a number of Jordanian officials from the public and private sectors. The delegation was received upon arrival by Mr. Walid Al Faraj from the Foreign Ministry and Mr. Fawzi Zabaneh from the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

U.S.-Libyan tension hits peak

(Continued from page 1) — The 78,500-tonne American carrier F-14 fighter jets and a tank of attack and electronic warfare planes. Together these two carriers have about 170 fighter planes.

The White House, meantime, continued to decline to comment on the situation and spokesman Larry Speakes declined to say how long the policy of silence would last.

U.S. television said Thursday Mr. Reagan was awaiting the return to Washington of two top officials this weekend before making a final decision on launching a strike at Libya.

NBC News reported that Mr. Reagan had already approved in principle a plan for "an attack of short duration" on Libyan military bases.

But it said he would not take final action until he reviewed the plans with Vice-President George Bush, who returns from a visit to the Gulf states on Saturday, and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, due back on Sunday from a tour of Pacific countries.

When GUVS was established in 1958 its role was very limited, and those who worked in the field of charity did so on voluntary basis during their free time, he said. But this work has been developed greatly and in the 1970's all activities were organised to run hand in hand with programmes set by the Ministry of Social Development, Dr. Khatib said.

What GUVS aims at is "to help the rich help the poor" and to get all possible assistance to raise the standard of living among the needy people of Jordan, Dr. Khatib added. For this, he said, GUVS relies primarily on public contributions.

Khatib outlines GUVS projects to help poor, needy people in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan annually distributes approximately JD 600,000 to 556 charitable and philanthropic societies on both banks of Jordan to help them carry out their humanitarian tasks. Chairman of the GUVS Executive Council Abdullah Al Khatib said Friday in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

He said that these societies are grouped into nine unions on the West and East banks centred in Amman, Jerusalem, Irbid, Nablus, Ma'an, Hebron, Balqa, Karak and Zarqa and he explained that the GUVS council in Amman represents all these unions. Referring to the development of these unions, Dr. Khatib said that GUVS, which was established in 1958 representing 152 societies, has now grown to include 556 societies, all aiming to provide humanitarian and charitable services to Jordanian society. GUVS carries out different activities in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and other concerned departments and ministries and its 15-member executive council supervises such activities and takes decisions on policies related to these activities, Dr. Khatib pointed out.

He said that apart from the financial aid to charitable societies, GUVS distributes in-kind assistance which is distributed to all needy families around the Kingdom. When GUVS was established in 1958 its role was very limited, and those who worked in the field of charity did so on voluntary basis during their free time, he said. But this work has been developed greatly and in the 1970's all activities were organised to run hand in hand with programmes set by the Ministry of Social Development, Dr. Khatib said.

What GUVS aims at is "to help the rich help the poor" and to get all possible assistance to raise the standard of living among the needy people of Jordan, Dr. Khatib added. For this, he said, GUVS relies primarily on public contributions.

Where the money goes

A great deal of the money which GUVS raises goes to helping institutions which care for old people, children and the handicapped, he continued. Also, allocations are made every year for direct aid to orphans, needy families and

also for educating children of poor families through paying their fees at community colleges, schools and universities. Dr. Khatib pointed out.

In the West Bank, he said, GUVS offers financial help to hospitals, charitable societies, colleges and schools and also helps centres which care for the handicapped.

One piastre a day

Dr. Khatib said that funds are raised through campaigns to collect donations from the public. Recently, GUVS launched the one-piastre-a-day campaign through which it hopes to raise a great deal of money for its activities, he said. According to Dr. Khatib, boxes provided by GUVS will be placed in banks, public and private institutions, schools, colleges and even homes for members of the public to donate a minimum of one piastre a day each for humanitarian causes. "I appeal to all citizens to donate generously through this scheme towards the betterment of their needy brothers and sisters around the country," Dr. Khatib said.

He said this year will witness an all-out campaign to raise as much money as possible through these boxes and through other campaigns which GUVS launches from time to time. Over the past three years, GUVS was able to collect JD 500,000 through such campaigns and the money has been deposited in banks prior to investing it in building trade centres and buildings with the revenues benefitting voluntary societies and needy people, Dr. Khatib said. "We hope to buy a piece of land and build a GUVS centre and headquarters in Amman and, slowly and gradually, we hope to be able to finance our own projects from our own resources," Dr. Khatib said.

According to Dr. Khatib, another GUVS project to collect surplus food and clothing from the public and organisations in Jordan for the benefit of the poor has been conducted successfully. Jordanians and Arab nationals living here and abroad provided GUVS with JD 200,000 worth of in-kind aid and JD 18,000 in cash during the last campaign and the government has decided to handover to GUVS all confiscated food supplies and clothes from customs offices at border posts, Dr. Khatib continued.

He said GUVS distributes food supplies and clothes collected

from hotels, restaurants and local stores to needy children, especially during feasts and national occasions. Nearly 72,000 people grouped in 10,000 families receive regular help from GUVS all year round, thanks to the generous contributions from members of the public, Dr. Khatib said.

Monthly lottery

Another source of income for GUVS, Dr. Khatib continued, is the monthly lottery. He said GUVS first lottery raised JD 255,350 in 1973 but this was developed to become JD 2,549,050 by the end of 1985, making a net profit of JD 1 million which is now being used to finance charitable activities.

Looking ahead

In the future GUVS hopes to be able to carry out its plans for improving the conditions of the poor and needy people, Dr. Khatib said, adding that GUVS looks forward to:

- 1- Better and sounder planning on the part of the executive council regarding the implementation of projects;
- 2- Further support from the government for charity projects;
- 3- More coordination in humanitarian work with the Ministry of Social Development, the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund and the Queen Major Foundation;
- 4- Investment of GUVS funds in profitable areas with protection for such investments from concerned government authorities;
- 5- A new legislation that would bring further government backing for GUVS' activities;
- 6- Setting up a charity centre in Amman through an investment fund which would finance charitable and philanthropic projects;
- 7- Development of GUVS administrative systems;
- 8- Development of the GUVS lottery to collect more revenues for charity;
- 9- Launching campaigns to collect more food supplies and clothing from homes and organisations;
- 10- Pursuing efforts for building the Amal Cancer Centre;
- 11- Obtaining approval from the government for building rehabilitation centres and other charitable and humanitarian projects;
- 12- Providing financial assistance to various charitable unions to enable them to carry out projects in their own regions.

Spanish parliamentarians tour development projects in Aqaba

Visiting delegation holds talks with King, Rifai on bilateral relations, Mideast issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting Spanish parliamentary delegation, led by Speaker of the Spanish Upper House of Parliament (Senado) Jose Fredrico de Carvajal, Friday visited Aqaba where they met local officials and toured development projects and schemes being implemented by the Aqaba Region Authority.

On Thursday His Majesty King Hussein conferred at the Royal Court with Mr. de Carvajal who conveyed to the King greetings from King Juan Carlos of Spain. Mr. de Carvajal also praised the strong, friendly ties between the Spanish and Jordanian people.

The audience was attended by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez Del Valle. Earlier, Mr. de Carvajal, who is heading a Spanish delegation on a week-long visit to Jordan, held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai in the presence of Mr. Lawzi. During the meeting Mr. Rifai spoke of the strong ties between Spain and Jordan and expressed hope that delegation's visit to Jordan would further strengthen these relations. Mr. de Carvajal described his visit as a gesture for further cementing Spanish-Jordanian ties.

Mr. Lawzi and Mr. de Carvajal earlier held talks on the Middle East and bilateral relations. Jordanian-Spanish relations are deep rooted and are developing for the benefit of both people in the economic, political and social fields, Mr. Lawzi told his guest. Referring to the Middle East question, Mr. Lawzi said that Jordan supports all initiatives aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the region and which would guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. "We believe in peace that would see an end to Israel's occupation of Arab Jerusalem and occupied Arab lands," Mr. Lawzi said. He added that Israel has been placing obstacles in the path of peace by stepping up its aggressive policies and violating all United Nations resolutions. Jordan hopes to establish peace through an international conference in which all concerned parties

would be represented to discuss a formula for peace, Mr. Lawzi said.

He said that Spain's admission to the European Community is bound to enable it to play a leading role in helping to bring about a just and durable peace settlement that would establish the rights of all people in the region and which would end Israel's aggression and inhuman treatment of the Arab people of Palestine.

Referring to the Gulf war, Mr. Lawzi said that Jordan supports Iraq's bids for peace and hopes that Iraq will eventually respond favourably to peace mediation efforts. For his part, Mr. de Carvajal said that his country supports a just peace which would guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

The Spanish delegation also met with Acting Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Ismail Hijazi with whom they discussed Spanish-Jordanian relations and the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories. Mr. Hijazi spoke of Israel's inhuman treatment of Arabs under its rule, Israel's eviction of Palestinians from their homes and its confiscation of Arab territory. Several house members were present at the meeting.

Jordan marks Arab Postal Day today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, along with other Arab countries, Saturday celebrates the 34th anniversary of the establishment of Arab Postal Union (APU) and will also mark Arab Postal Day which this year has the theme "Mail in the service of Arab development."

The APU, which groups most Arab countries, was established in 1952 in Damascus and held its second meeting in Amman in 1954 when it decided to adopt a Jordanian proposal that members of the postal union celebrate Arab Postal Day on the anniversary of the union's establishment. The APU prepared the foundations and regulations for the documents on postal services which are now in force and is working hard to improve postal services in the Arab World and to enhance Arab relations.

Among the most important achievements of the union are the establishment of the unified Arab postal market, under which all Arab countries apply a standard local and international postal tariff, and the Arab Postal College which supplies the Arab World with its requirements of qualified staff to handle postal services.

On the occasion, Minister of Communications Muhieddin Al Hussein congratulated all staff working in the postal services and requested them to take this opportunity to assess their services and to review their achievements. Also speaking on the occasion was Ministry of Communications Under Secretary Mansour Ibn Tarif who said that the ministry has established some 770 post offices with 85,000 post office boxes throughout the Kingdom.

Third national pharmacy conference concludes

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The third Jordanian pharmaceutical conference wound up its meetings on Thursday and issued a number of recommendations regarding prescriptions and drug manufacturing in addition to the pharmaceutical sector in the Kingdom.

Participants in the three-day congress also concluded that the pharmacy profession and the prescription of drugs in the Kingdom are of a good standard in comparison to neighbouring countries.

Selling drugs without referring to medical prescriptions is an international problem which depends on a country's economic, social, cultural and medical situation as well as the existence of a health insurance system, the closing statement added.

The congress heard discussions on 16 working papers presented by eminent pharmacists in addition to the main working paper which was entitled "the pharmacist and drugs in the service of society".

Health Ministry regulations
An important recommendation of the congress called on pharmaceutical industries to adhere to regulations set by the Ministry of Health. The recommendation stated that all manufactured drugs should include a list of ingredients and an indications slip.

Another recommendation called for the unification of medical prescriptions in the private sector, medical institutions and hospitals and participants suggested that two copies of prescription should be issued; the first for the pharmacist to file and the second for the patient.

The congress also dwelt on a new regulation regarding the issuance of licences for opening pharmacies and it called for introducing an amendment to the current procedures in order to ensure that the procedure for applications is fair.

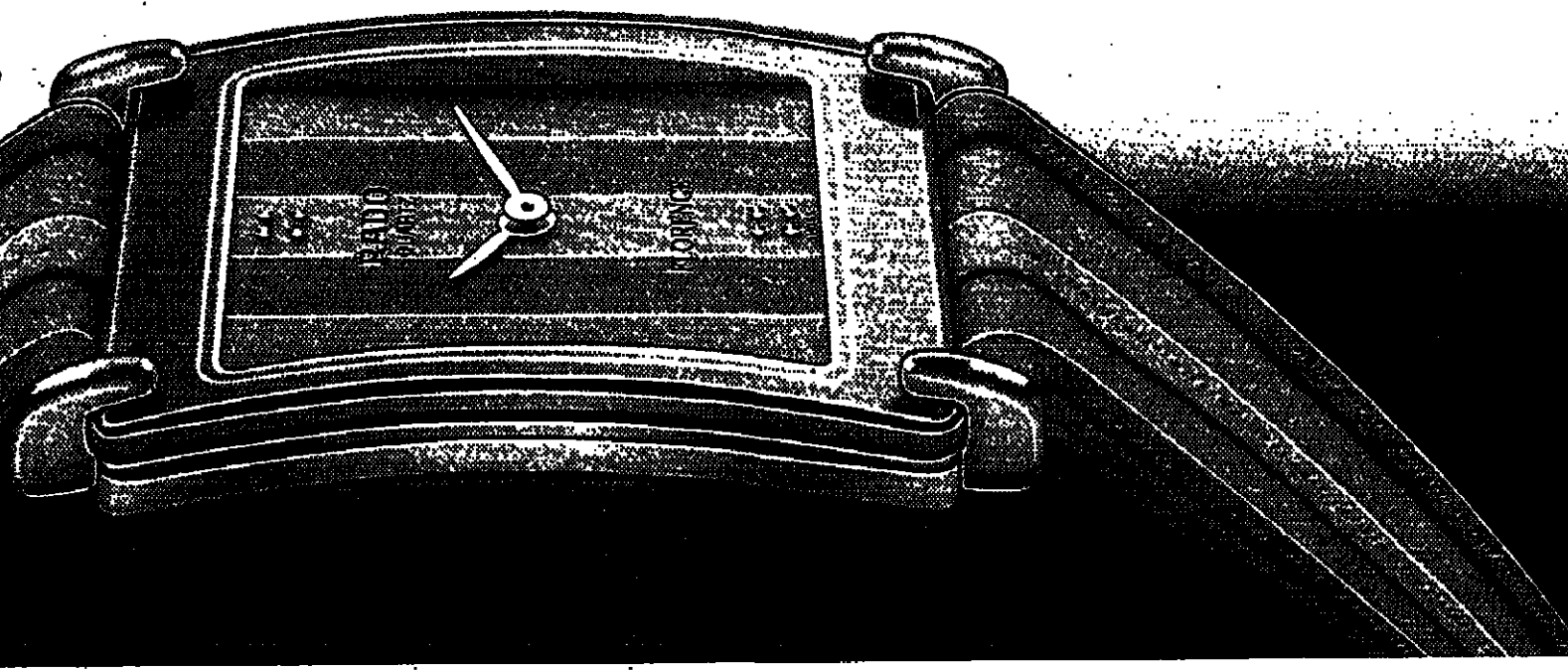
The new amendment will annul the old, pending lists and will lay down specified rules and terms for new pharmacies in order to maintain a high pharmaceutical standard.

The congress also recommended that the Jordanian Pharmacists' Association (JPA) and the faculties of pharmacy at the Jordanian universities hold specialised seminars on hospitals and clinical pharmacy.

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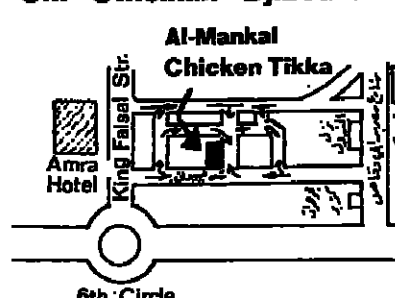
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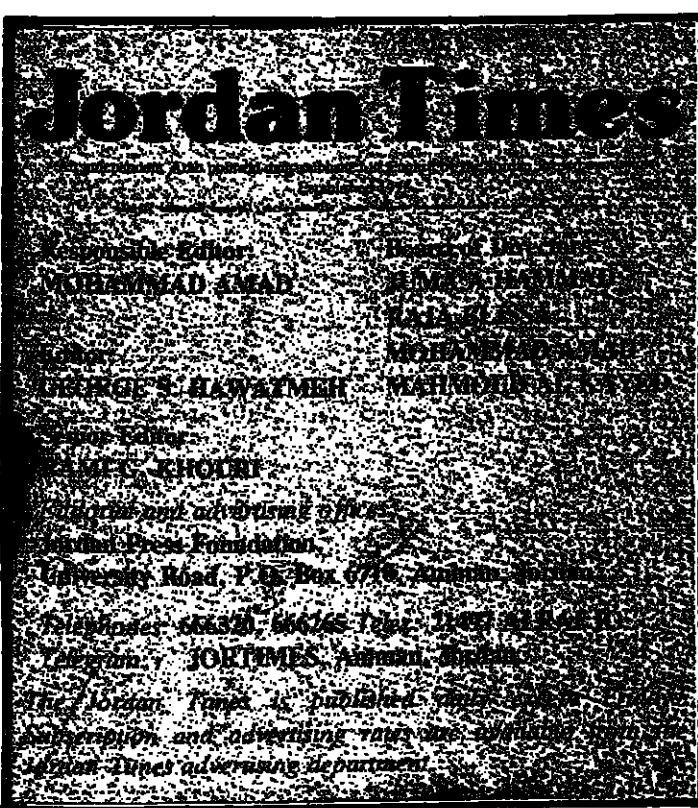
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Edward Koch: Delivering for Israel

By Alfred M. Lilienthal

Dr. Lilienthal looks at *Politics*, the new book by Edward I. Koch, mayor of New York City.

IN this sequel to his successful book, *Mayor*, which was billed as "wildly funny" but in fact is outrageously chauvinist and Zionist, Koch details how he most successfully, first as congressman and then as mayor, plays up to minorities, whether it be on busing, gay rights or, particularly, on Israel, and brings these voters into his camp.

He could have borrowed a subtitle for the book from Steven Solerz, the Brooklyn congressman with the largest Jewish constituency. Four years ago in a letter to his constituents headed "Delivering for Israel," Solerz confessed he had "deliberately sought assignment to the foreign affairs committee precisely because I wanted to be in a position to be helpful to Israel." In this communication, which was mailed at government expense, the congressman boasted of "the behind the scenes story of how I was able to obtain an additional \$66m in foreign aid for Israel," pointing out "how legislative maneuvering and political persistence manage to prevail over fiscal restraints and bureaucratic resistance."

"First as congressman and since as mayor, Koch has delivered wherever possible for Israel and become a key adjunct to the Zionist lobby in Washington after entering Congress in January 1969. When the *New York Times* broke a story that the president of Chase Manhattan Bank, David Rockefeller, along with other top financial and industrial leaders, had visited the White House and

warned President Nixon that the U.S. was losing political and economic influence in the Arab World because of its policies, Koch wrote an indignant letter to Rockefeller, one of his constituents, saying: "I'm writing to find out whether or not that conversation took place and if it did you will be hearing further from me on this subject." He read this letter on the floor of the House and then had it placed in the *Congressional Record*. Having reprinted the letter, at the bottom of which he suggested, "Why not write to David Rockefeller at One Chase Manhattan Plaza and tell him what you think of his statement," Koch tells how he personally handed out "a thousand copies at the subway entrance at Lexington Avenue and 68th Street." Encouraged by Koch, Jewish organisations raised a furore over the Rockefeller viewpoint.

In his book, Koch does not spell out the text of the letter — little wonder — but the January 1970 issue of *Middle East Perspective* indicates that the clever politician who had come into the limelight by unseating the Tammany Hall leader, Carmine DeSapio, wrote that "if the *Times* report of David Rockefeller's activity was correct, we would undertake a campaign designed to render effects which would be economically adverse for the Chase Manhattan Bank."

In his letter to the bank president, Koch requested a meeting and added: "If after our discussion it is clear that the article fairly sets forth your position, further acts with respect to your bank would be in order and, in that eventuality your patrons may be heard from. I want you to know that, when you at-

tempt to influence the foreign policy of the United States so as to support your economic interests, you run the risk of having those who disagree with you undertake a campaign designed to render effects which could be economically adverse for the Chase Manhattan Bank."

When questioned later, the legislator denied he was either threatening the bank or planning congressional action. "Pressure works both ways," he simply explained. Koch did visit the "sumptuous Rockefeller office" at One Chase Manhattan Plaza where, after the bank president admitted the *Times* reportage was correct, he was succinctly told: "Change your position." As he was leaving this meeting, Koch asked Rockefeller if he agreed with the statement that "Israel's military superiority in the area must be maintained." Rockefeller asked, "Who said that?" and Koch replied, "Your brother, Nelson."

New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller, still hoping to become president, shortly afterwards issued a statement from Albany: "In this country's efforts to promote a lasting peace in the Middle East, I earnestly hope that no decision will be made that would undermine the strength and security of Israel as a free and sovereign nation."

David Rockefeller, in his turn, issued a new statement saying that the U.S. "must do all it can to safeguard the security and sovereign existence of Israel," and added that he was convinced that "thoughtful Arabs are beginning to question whether the current turmoil in the area really furthers their own interests." This public statement followed the pub-

lication in the *Times* of a large advertisement, signed by the president of the Tensar Corporation, the manufacturers of high-intensity lamps, with the headline "The corporation no longer has a friend at Chase Manhattan."

"Mr. Rockefeller has apparently decided it's best to put his mouth where his money is. I feel that turnaround is fair play. Accordingly, Tensar's account is being withdrawn from the Chase."

In subsequent advertisements, the Chase Manhattan blatantly did all it could to show how pro-Jewish and pro-Israel Rockefeller and the bank actually were.

Paradoxically, the Chase Manhattan Bank had been the registered agent for the sale of Israeli bonds and was on the verge of being placed on the boycott list. Only through the most adroit manoeuvring, with the cooperation of certain Arab representatives in the U.S., did the Chase avoid a ban which would have cut off its very lucrative business in the Arab World, principally in Kuwait and Lebanon.

Koch's book is replete with tales of blackmail and pressure, playing up to ethnic and near-ethnic groups and subordinating the interests of the U.S. and then the city of New York to such policies.

When Ford became president after the Nixon resignation, he selected Nelson Rockefeller as vice-president and Rockefeller's name had to be submitted to Congress. Koch at first refused to support Rockefeller because he had been quoted as privately saying, "they (the Jews) took the Arabs' land away" and that he thought Israel should negotiate with the PLO. Koch forced the governor to issue a statement (written by Koch) that it was in "the national interest of the United States to provide for the security of Israel as well as a moral imperative" before voting for him.

When asked by a Mississippi congressman to speak at a prayer-breakfast, he presented a sketchy outline of Judaism, and after fielding a number of questions he concluded: "There's one question you want to ask me that you haven't asked so I'm going to pose it for you. The question you really want to ask me is do Jews have dual loyalty?" According to his description, "their eyes lit up because this was the question they wanted to ask but were fearful of offending me." He then answered it himself: "You never ask that question of an Italian as to whether or not he might have dual loyalty, or of a Frenchman or an Englishman or an Irishman. That question is asked only of a Jew." Then, dramatically raising his right hand, he declared: "I want to assure you, I do solemnly swear that if Israel ever invades the United States, I shall stand with the

United States." What a tour-de-force and clever evasion of the real issue of dual loyalty, now set more in focus by the Pollard spy case.

The book, replete with other examples of ethnic politicking, overflows with Jewish slang and four letter vulgarities. But it is worth reading if only to gain an understanding of how the Israeli lobby in Washington gets support from the Congress and in turn feeds into the Congress — a partnership explaining the Zionist success story.

For those who are not Americans, this book is still interesting because it shows the *chutzpah* (colossal gall) of one man in an important office who uses the political system in a way that its founders and presidents never wished it to be. He defies the dicta of Woodrow Wilson: "You cannot become true Americans if you think of yourselves in groups. America does not consist of groups. A man who thinks of himself as belonging to a particular national group has not yet become an American and a man who goes among you to trade upon your nationality is not worthy to live under the stars and stripes."

As CBS's Eric Sevareid observed during election campaigning: "This country is becoming the home of the ethnic — a country of groups sharing hatched names and candidates wandering among them promising what they'll do for their homelands across the sea." Only Koch's alleged homeland across the sea was never his nor that of most of his co-religionists.

Politics is published by Simon and Schuster, New York.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

FRIDAY'S

Al Ra'i: U.S. at it again

WE are concerned over reports from the United States that Washington now seeks to direct a blow against Libya as 'revenge' for an alleged Libyan attack on American interests in Europe. We are concerned even more by President Reagan's approval of a such a reprisal and America's drive to prepare the world for such action. Such actions and counter actions and reprisals are bound to end the role of the United Nations as an arbitrator to end international disputes by peaceful means. This also means a U.S. return to international terrorism to settle its differences with other nations. Washington should leave the work of dealing with disputes to the United Nations which should also enlist the support of all nations in its endeavours to end terrorism by imposing sanctions on countries that harbour terrorists and condone their actions in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The United States should not act as the policeman of the world and direct a reprisal blow against Libya or other countries on bad terms with Washington. Any act of reprisal would be regarded as a more serious act of terrorism that could endanger the world's security and peace.

Al Dustour: Who are the real culprits?

IT is hard to believe that the United States is mobilising its fleets in the Mediterranean only to direct a blow of revenge against Libya in reply to allegations about terrorist actions against Americans in Europe. Since the United States has failed to produce one shred of evidence that Libya was behind the terrorist actions in Europe, we cannot rule out the possibility that the Israeli or perhaps the American intelligence services were responsible for the new wave of terror, not only to mar Libya's image but also to pave the way for terrorist actions against the Arab countries as a whole. Perhaps the Americans want to send a message to the Soviet Union to tell it that the Mediterranean is an arena for Israel and the United States alone. Israel's Prime Minister Shimon Peres announced a few days ago that Israel would be willing to give support to any U.S. aggression on Libya, and this sheds more light on the real intentions of the U.S.-Israeli alliance in our region. We condemn all forms of provocation and aggression on Libya, or any other Arab country because such actions would endanger our region and the whole world.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. moves bound to fail

THE Arab World has gone through the experience of United States initiatives to solve the Middle East conflict, and it has become clear that these initiatives are bound to fail because they do not recognise the right of the Arab people in their homeland in Palestine. These initiatives also fail because the United States aims to safeguard the interests of Israel alone at the expense of the Palestinian people. Any initiative or solution for the Middle East question in the Zionist-American concept would not succeed in establishing a just peace but would continue to make headway in our region if the Arabs remain disorganised and weak. As long as the United States is totally biased towards Israel, and as long as it does not recognise the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland, there can be no successful solution for our problem.

THURSDAY'S

Al Ra'i: In service of Israeli goals

ALMOST overnight the United States administration issued conflicting statements about a reported initiative for a Middle East settlement. First came Vice President George Bush's statement that a new American initiative did exist, then the State Department categorically denied that Bush has made such a statement at all. This contradiction came close on the heels of another made by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres who announced during his American trip that he would like to see a Marshall-like plan implemented in the Middle East. Later when he returned to Tel Aviv, Peres said that the plan was engineered by the U.S. administration. It seems clear that the Israeli-American alliance has concocted a specific formula to be marketed in the Middle East region, particularly in the Gulf region where Bush is visiting; and Egypt which has received U.S. envoy Richard Murphy. The Americans and Israelis are plotting something designed to turn one Arab country against another, and sowing seeds of dissension among the Arabs themselves. They have been at work on plans without the knowledge of the Arab countries in real confrontation with Israel, and calling for concessions on the part of the Arab Nation with the purpose of serving Israel's interests and objectives.

Al Dustour: Arab-Islamic ties boosted

KING Hussein's recent tour of Indonesia, the Sultanate of Brunei and Oman was in the course of his efforts to explain the Arab stand, and within his endeavours to serve the national causes. In Indonesia, the largest Islamic nation, the King held talks with President Suharto about the Middle East and the Gulf war, and he underlined the importance of bolstering Arab-Islamic action in the face of the common threats of Islamic holy places in Arab Jerusalem. A joint statement on the visit voiced the desire of Jordan and Indonesia to establish a durable peace based on the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from land occupied since 1967. The King and his host supported all bids to end the Gulf war to safeguard the national interests of both Iran and Iraq. The visit to Indonesia resulted in the conclusion of a deal bolstering Jordan's ties with Indonesia in economic and trade fields. Thanks to King Hussein's wise policies, Jordan maintains very strong relations with Arab and Islamic countries, and his policies will eventually bear fruit and contribute towards a more progressive future.

Hanna Siniora, voice of Palestinian moderation

By Bernard Edinger
Reuter

JERUSALEM — Five years ago, Hanna Siniora's reputation hardly extended beyond the pharmacy his family owns inside the walls of Jerusalem's old city.

Today, the 48-year-old Palestinian newspaper editor is one of the best-known inhabitants of the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967.

He is a confidant of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, meets with aides of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and is received at the State Department in Washington.

A bespectacled six-footer with a thin moustache and the beaming smile of a "bon vivant," Siniora is best known for taking stances often taboo among Palestinian nationalists, but which he says reflect Arafat's true options.

Chief among these is unqualified acceptance of Israel's right to exist peacefully as a Jewish state within borders it enjoyed until the 1967 Middle East war.

Siniora says a PLO-led Palestinian "mini-state" should exist alongside Israel in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and not in its place.

Insisting that Arafat shares his views, Siniora says conflicting statements by the PLO leader and his aides result from divisions among Palestinians and reflect unwillingness to make concessions to Israel without assurances of reciprocity.

"Too once believed Israel should disappear but our lives are now intertwined with the Israelis and if we are to survive we must learn to live together. Arafat is a realist and believes this too," Siniora told Reuters.

Speaking shortly after his latest meeting with the PLO leader in Amman, Siniora said: "Arafat will negotiate, but he must get something in return and that is the right of self-determination for the Palestinians."

Already uneasy over Siniora's effective repudiation of the PLO charter calling for Israel's destruction, some PLO sympathisers on the West Bank are also unhappy at Siniora's condemnation of attacks against civilians in his *Al Fajr* (the dawn) newspaper.

Even those who agree that harming civilians backfires against the Palestinian cause, object to some Palestinians labelling others criminals, said one militant. The man, who has been in Israeli prisons, added: "We have enough divisions among us already."

Siniora is also far from popular among some Israelis who suspect he is part of a PLO campaign to gain respectability among the foreign diplomats and journalists who besiege his Jerusalem office.

One top Israeli official said Siniora was "a PLO publicity gimmick for Westerners whom Arafat will drop if Arabs start to wonder if his moderate tone really reflects PLO positions."

The view is not shared by Prime Minister Peres. Last year, Siniora was one of only two Palestinians on a long Jordan-PLO list accepted by Israel to take part in po-

ential peace negotiations.

Siniora entered public life through his newspaper, which he took over in 1974 when its head, his cousin Jack Nasser, mysteriously disappeared.

Despite continual clashes with Israeli censors, *Al Fajr* has become known as the newspaper in the occupied territories which most closely reflects the views of the mainline PLO.

Siniora says his only political activity before that was joining a demonstration at the American University of Beirut in the early 1960s which resulted in his expulsion from Lebanon.

A member of the tiny Roman Catholic minority among the West Bank's overwhelming Muslim or orthodox Christian population, Siniora had not intended to become a pharmacist.

Roman Jews prepare to receive the Pope

By Victor L. Simpson
The Associated Press

ROME — The first recorded visit of a Pope to a synagogue will take place April 13 in Rome, where ancient Jewish community suffered or thrived for centuries at the whim of the papacy.

Pope John Paul II and Roman rabbis will exchange greetings, speeches and read from the Psalms during the visit to the city's monumental main synagogue along the Tiber River, just two kilometres from St. Peter's Basilica.

Jewish leaders have expressed the hope the visit will serve the fight against anti-Semitism, deepen understanding between Jews and Catholics and help create the climate for the Vatican to formally recognise Israel.

"When he enters the synagogue, it is important that the Pope emphasise that the two religions have equal dignity and equal legitimacy," said Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish communities.

Vatican officials said the Pope's action could spur visits by archbishops around the world to synagogues in their cities, but they appear to play down any connection to the Israeli issue.

"The Pope is not visiting an Israeli embassy. The visit is strictly of a religious character," said Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro.

The ochre-coloured synagogue, which was completed in 1904, was built in what was until 1870 the Jewish ghetto. On the side facing the Tiber are plaques in memory of Jewish soldiers who died in World War I, of the 2,091 Roman Jews deported by the Nazis and to

the victims of a Nazi reprisal slaying in 1943.

Rome's chief rabbi, Etio Toaff, said the proposal for the visit came from the Pope and that it was a "courageous and coherent" gesture.

He said he was moved that "finally the Pope wanted to meet the Jews of Rome in their synagogue" but the visit also recalled "the sad facts" of the history of the Roman Jews.

The community, estimated to number 16,000, is perhaps the oldest in the West, dating back some 2,000 years.

A tiny museum adjoining the synagogue contains reminders of the community's history, its relations with the papacy and the misunderstandings between the Vatican and the city's Jews.

On the wall hangs a copy of the edict of Pope Paul IV in 1555 that

confined the Jews to the ghetto, citing them as killers of Christ.

More than 400 years later, in 1965, the Second Vatican Council issued its revolutionary paper on non-Christian religions, "Nostra aetate" (in our times), which officially refuted that charge of killing Christ. The document was considered a turning point in Catholic-Jewish relations.

One lithograph shows a rabbi seeking the favour of a Pope being carried through the streets of Rome while another depicts a Jew being rolled in a cask during carnival celebrations.

A history of Italian Jews, which is on sale in the museum, says that, as the prestige and influence of the papacy grew, it began to condition the life of the Jews. "In fact, their history for about 13 centuries was determined by the personality of each individual Pope," it says.

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Programme 2 preview

Catering for young, old, and the sports nut

By J.H. Boteler

IT VERY nearly escaped my notice; but then, last Monday, there he was, breathing fire like the proverbial dragon: Cesar Luis Minotti, soccer manager supreme and beloved beanpole of the tobacco industry. At about 9.00 on Mondays and Thursdays, between the comedy and drama slots, the Argentinian wizard gives forth on the twenty-four finalists for this year's World Cup in Mexico. There are twenty programmes in all — (I presume that the "no-hopers," and therefore those teams who will probably come out most covered in glory — will have to share a few programmes between them) — the whole exercise very prominently sponsored by Carlsberg beer. But even so the present schedule does not seem to allow this series time to finish before the competition starts on May 31st. But perhaps we can then enjoy the heart-warming spectacle on Senor Menotti tipping Brazil and/or Argentina for the final a week after we have seen them comprehensively crushed by Algeria and Iraq. Oh, happy day! But wouldn't you just know it: no sooner have JTV unveiled a cycle that has not suffered massive defections and dislocations in its opening weeks, than it is bound to suffer such a fate before it has run its full course. But all in a good cause: that of heart-stirring excitement and frenzied drama 'neath the noonday Mexico sun.

Got rather carried away there. I must admit, so I had better knuckle down pronto and get on with the rest of Programme Two fare. But only briefly this week since: (A) I have yet to fully come to terms with all that is on offer, and (B) I want to spend a bit of time at the end talking about the various English-speaking children's programmes to be found on Programme One. But first:

Comedies

More confusion and marital discord tonight from the fish-'n'-chips brigade in *Duty Free*, whilst tomorrow (Sunday) finds everyone running around like chickens with their heads cut off in *Me And My Girl* since Sarah has fallen in love with an athlete. The main items in Mondays *Carol Burnett And Friends* is a Hitchcock spoof. The opening episode last Tuesday of

All At No. 20 behaved much in the manner of a typhoon: it exploded onto our screens with very little warning. Very fast, with an in-depth cast of strength, it also had a higher proportion than usual of rather funny lines; let us hope that it keeps it up. This week Sheila (Mum) braves a visit to the bank manager in quest of a loan. A suggestive newspaper article about Jack and the girls causes many a tear before bedtime in *Three's Company* on Wednesday, and Thursday finds Tom and his father enjoying a boys-only holiday in *Don't Wait Up*. On Friday good old Mr. Belvedere has to pour oil on troubled waters (again) when Kevin manages to ruin his parents' eighteenth wedding anniversary.

Feature Films and documentaries

Rather a strange pairing, I admit, but with only two entrants in each category it seemed best. As for films, tonight has a made-for-TV, 1973 vintage, saga of love found and then subsequently lost called *The Interval*. Merle Oberon stars as a woman who is recovering from a nervous breakdown and searching for true love and happiness down in Yucatan, Mexico. There she meets a young hunk called Chris, and all is joy undiluted until, for some reason best known to herself, the lady flees. She realises her mistake later and returns but, alas, not in time to recapture what once was. A tragic tale. Thursday's film is called, apparently, *Fugitive From Empire*, but that could well prove to be merely a sub-heading since no information about it is forthcoming apart from the fact that it is about a lone brave soul who attempts to bring peace to the multitude of warring factions that surround him. One individual described it to me rather tentatively as a fairy tale which, judging from the trend of news stories these days, is probably spot-on.

Documentaries this week give us *Man And Music* (tomorrow, Sunday), which this time looks at the court of Louis XIV and the many different composers who flourished at Versailles in the 17th Century, and on Wednesday *Discovery* examines the development of the microscope and its uses and benefits, especially in the field of medicine.

Detectives

Anyone who watched last week's mini-series "The Long Hot Summer" and found some solace from that very seamy tale by feasting their eyes on the delectable Cybill Shepherd can take some comfort from the fact that she stars in the new Sunday evening series *Moonlighting*. "She's a gorgeous model. He's a trash private eye. Together they take on trouble ... and the sparks fly." So runs the publicity blurb, and all in all it sounds like a variation on the theme played by "Remington Steele" and "Dempsey And Makepeace." Rather more the former, probably, since the heroine is Maddie Hayes, mega-successful model until her manager does the dirt on her and leaves her with nothing but a clutch of "firms" and enterprises that are nothing more than tax shelters. She sells off all of them except — you've guessed it — a detective agency. This has an incumbent: a tough, no-nonsense character called David Addison. The two of them can't keep from arguing and fighting but, surprise surprise, a fatal, romantic attraction draws them together. (Sounds familiar?) Anyway, pretty soon a fortune in

hidden Nazi gems, and a bunch of vicious killers soon conspire to get Maddie and Dave working as partners. This is the pilot episode, and clocks in at just over an hour-and-a-half, but here's hoping that JTV lets us stay up late and see it through to its, no doubt, successful and starry-eyed conclusion.

The *Equalizer* on Tuesdays is proving rather interesting, not least in that it seems to be continuing the recent trend of combining detectives with rock-and-roll. "Hunter" frequently bursts into song, and anyone who has seen "Miami Vice" will know that it is little more than a dramatised pop-concert. The *Equalizer* has music scored by Stewart Copeland of The Police, and last week an arch-baddie, (indeed a veritable slimy reptile of a baddie) played by Adam Ant, no less. Also interesting is the fact that, hero McCall and the victims aside, everyone else, on either side, is thoroughly repulsive and has simply no redeeming features. An upshot of this has been, in the first two instalments at least, that necessity and "public" (i.e. CIA) interest allows the villain to walk free. But so far justice has been served, since circumstances allow McCall to blow away the offending ind-

ividual in a thoroughly legal manner. Which is to be heartily approved of.

Drama

The first dose of *Heart Of The High Country* (Monday) proved to be fairly strong medicine. (The moment the dog appeared one just knew it had about ten minutes before bug-eyed and taciturn Reg Bowen sent it to its maker). All fairly depressing, and not much alleviated by being filmed in washed out sepia tones that invariably mean gloom and despondency. Doubtless all will come out right in the end for stoical Ceci, but not before fate has given her a thorough going over. This week she delivers baby, is disappointed in her love for upright Ginger, and is inveigled into the treacherous control of her neighbour Calvin Laird, who covets her land.

The *Brief* is proving very watchable, due not only to its fine level of acting, but also the very compassionate and human level of its storylines. Contrary to my initial impressions, these would appear to be unconnected, save for the lead characters. This Tuesday's tale is set in England, with Lucas having to prosecute a fourteen-year-old girl, Lorna Wilson, accused of arson. A surprise arrival at the court-house is Anika, determined not to take "No" for an answer. Will she succeed in her mission this time around? Friday continues with *My Brother Jonathan*, in which the hero falls out with Doctor Craig and the hospital management over his (Jonathan's) decision to admit a penniless female patient to the hospital for treatment. Wednesday has another gruesome tale from *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, this time a charming one in which an actor kills his friend, puts the cadaver in the bath, and proceeds to cut him up with an electric saw. Later that same evening there is a further episode of *Sins*, in which the son of an old Frenchman attacks Helene but only manages to kill her theatre-manager husband, thereby enabling Madame Junot to blackmail the father and increase her empire. From the little that I have seen of this so far it seems to be full of histrionics and guttural Germans being very naz(st)i and threatening, and I suspect that in future weeks it may well find itself relegated to:

Soaps

Passing briefly over *Return To Eden*, chundering along on Thursday, and *Falcon Crest*, which this Friday finds Eriksson the lawyer chiselling innocent Maggie out of a fortune, the highlight of this particular category has got to be *Dallas* (Monday). A lot of extreme stupidity was in evidence here last week. Bobby won the fabled contest for Ewing Oil at the last moment, just when J.R. was girding his loins to oust him from a job, and immediately agrees to share the presidency with his slippery elder brother, when the sensible course would have been to chuck him out of the window. First prize in the idiosyncrasy stakes though must go to Ray, grimly determined to go on trial for murder without a lawyer or even a defence, but doubtless with his ever-present trail-stained denim and fifty-gallon hat. If he persists in his, he is doomed, but perhaps he considers himself better off in the hoosegow than facing the wrath of Lucy, the Poison Dwarf. This week "The Trial Of Ray" gets under way, Pam consoles Lucy (hopeless), and doubtless Sue Ellen makes further libidinous advances on her sons youthful and well-proportioned camp counsellor (troublesome).

Programme one

This has several programmes that should keep the younger generation happy (and quiet) and a fair number that parents will find enjoyable too. Among the latter are several cartoons, including two today. *Barbapapa* is about a family that can change form and shape at will, and can also be seen on Tuesday and Thursday. Also today there is loony adventure from that fast-talking, street-wise bird, *Woody Woodpecker*. Stone-blind Mr. Magoos and his similarly afflicted dog entertain — with more than a dash of social satire — on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings, whilst a whole host of Disney characters can be found in *The New Mickey Mouse Club* on Monday.

Amongst the comedy-dramas there are *Different Strokes*, (today) in which a white family with a daughter have adopted two small black boys, and *Small Wonder*, on Monday. The Lawson family, (father Ted, a computer wiz-



ard, his wife Joan, and son Jamie) have acquired a daughter, Vicki. She is a robot! Loveable and sweet, she is unfortunately prone to the occasional circuit malfunction, which lead to many (hilarious) problems, and only serve to heighten the suspicions of the next-door neighbours, the Schumans, of whom father Ted is a rival co-worker of Mr. Lawson and daughter Emily is thoroughly nosy and obnoxious. Tuesday has *Gimme A Break*, in which a widowed policeman has hired an irrepressible and morally inconsistent black housekeeper to look after his aging father and three daughters. This is a programme that would shine on the 8.30 comedy slot on Programme Two.

In a more serious and thought-provoking vein there is *Rainbow*, (Sunday, but not this week). Each episode of this award-winning series features a young protagonist who encounters certain moral and physical dilemmas which provide a glimpse to the world beyond childhood, and each experience enables the young hero to deal in a positive way with life's complexities and challenges. Finally Thursday has star guests, comedy, variety acts and magic in *The Paul Daniels Magic show*. Something, as they say, for all the family.

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Senna delivers warning with blistering lap pace

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, Spain (R) — Brooding Brazilian Ayrton Senna signalled his intention of winning Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix with a run-away performance in opening practice Friday.

The Lotus driver left his rivals reeling with a pacesetter lap of one minute 21.605 seconds (186.077 KPH) on the brand new Jerez circuit — a massive 1.4 seconds clear of Briton Nigel Mansell, second fastest in his Williams.

Senna's effort on the punishing 4.2 kilometre track was a replica of his practice run at last month's Brazilian Grand Prix where he snatched pole position in the last moments of qualifying.

The world title prospect finished second in the race behind the Williams of compatriot Nelson Piquet, third best Friday.

Senna was forced to sit out the first half of Friday's one hour session while Lotus mechanics completed an engine change.

"They did a fantastic job but the car was wrongly set up," Senna said.

"I could not do any better," he added modestly. "I hope that tomorrow there will be an improvement."

Mansell, who had looked set to lead until his arch-rival's last lap burst, was not upset by his sudden relegation.

"I am happy with my time," Mansell said. "My teammate (Piquet) won the last race and I beat him. I think we are in great shape."

Mansell also said he had received an apology from former partner Keke Rosberg after the Finnish driver, now with McLaren, had obstructed him all the way along the pit straight, fastest part of the circuit.

"Keke said he had simply not seen me behind him," said Mansell after the high speed drama.

United's league title hopes are fading

LONDON (R) — Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson has conceded that starting with the match against Sheffield Wednesday on Sunday his team must finish the English soccer season as spectacularly as they began it if they are to win the league.

Atkinson is known for his boundless optimism and has been asserting that even though his team have faded badly after starting the season with 10 successive league wins, the title remains within their grasp.

But his latest pronouncements have had a less convincing ring and he even admits that United, two points behind leaders Liverpool, are now "a long shot" for the title.

"We have to battle it out and hope we win our last five games," he said. "A lot of our hopes rest on the others shipping up."

There seems little prospect that Liverpool will come to grief Saturday in their home game against struggling Coventry, who have not won an away First Division match against the former European Cup holders in 18 tries. Coventry's manager Don Mackay said: "Fear of losing has become our biggest problem."

Second-placed Everton, with the same points as Liverpool but with a game in hand, have a more difficult task, a visit to Arsenal, but should be strengthened by the recall after injury of Gary Linaker.

Everton, the league champions, are anxious to rediscover their

title form, having won only one of their last four league games.

If either Liverpool or Everton are denied the title, it is likely it will go to London with Chelsea and West Ham still in contention. They are lying fourth and fifth but have games in hand over third-placed Manchester United.

Swiss yacht leads Whitbread

PORTSMOUTH, England (AP) — The Maxi entry UBS Switzerland led the fleet of 14 yachts in varying headwinds off Brazil in the last leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race, race organisers said Friday.

Esprit D'Equipe, the mid-sized French entry, was the handicap leader with Philips Innovator, a mid-sized Dutch Yacht, in second place.

UBS skipper Pierre Fehlmann, 43, "expects to be in Portsmouth May 7," said Eileen Caulcutt, a spokeswoman for the Royal Naval Sailing Association, which organises the race.

The 24.3-metre Swiss entry was 418 kilometres away from Punta Del Este, Uruguay, from where the race left on its fourth and last

leg Wednesday, she said. Its total time in the race that began here Sept. 28 was almost 20 hours faster than that of Flyer II, the Dutch yacht that won the last Whitbread race in 1981-82.

Since the boats left Punta Del Este, they have stretched over an area of 96.5 kilometres off Brazil. UBS "has taken a course approximately 85 miles from the coast," Caulcutt said.

Atlantic Privateer, a U.S. yacht that began the race bearing the name of Portatan, has taken the most easterly course and was 115 miles off Brazil, in second place in the Maxi class.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Ethiopia to boycott South-only Olympics

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia, home of some of the world's greatest long distance runners, said it will boycott the 1988 Seoul Olympic games if South Korea refuses to share venues with communist North Korea. Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam told a meeting of the central committee of the Ruling Workers (Communist) Party of Ethiopia Thursday that the country would not take part in the Olympics "if it is to take place in Seoul only."

W.Germany names women's squad

BONN (R) — Steffi Graf and Claudia Kohde-Kilsch have agreed to return to play for West Germany this year in the Federation Cup, the top team competition in women's tennis. West Germany reached the final in 1982 and 1983 but flopped badly in the last two years after leading players refused to take part because of squabbles with the national tennis association.

59 soccer fans arrested in Basle

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Fifty-nine people were arrested Wednesday night after opposing supporters clashed during a "friendly" soccer match between West Germany and Switzerland, police said Thursday. A police spokesman said most of those arrested were West Germans, who were later escorted to the border. Three West Germans were still in custody Thursday morning. Supporters clashed shortly after the start of the game and police stepped in when fans threw tear gas in the stands. Fireworks and crackers were also set off.

Pakistan ousts Australia in Australasia Cup play

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (R) — Australia crashed out of the Australasia Cup cricket tournament here Friday as a magnificent 95 by Pakistan opener Mudassar Nazar helped his side to an eight wicket victory in their first round tie.

Australia won the toss and batted first, an unheated 60 by Greg Ritchie taking them to 202 for seven wickets. But the Pakistanis, captained by Javed Miandad after Imran Khan failed a fitness test, sailed comfortably past the total, reaching 206 for two with five balls to spare.

Nazar's 95 off 140 balls included five boundaries. But his hopes of a century were dashed as, with only eight runs needed and trying to force the pace, he was clean bowled by Bruce Reel.

With the day's play in bright sunshine, contrasting sharply with Thursday's constant drizzle, a lifeless wicket gave no help to Australia's three-pronged pace attack.

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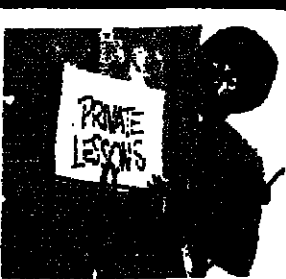
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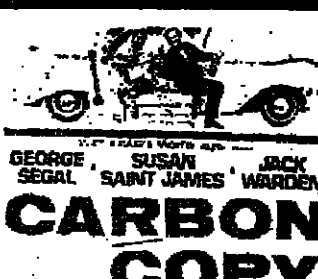
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Self in life

Labour celebrates 1st by-election victory

History, predicts fall of Thatcher

LONDON (R) — Britain's opposition Labour Party celebrated its first by-election victory in London over the Conservatives in 29 years and said it was on course to stop Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher winning a third term.

Official results after balloting Thursday for the parliamentary seat in the South West London district of Fulham gave Neil Kinnock's Labour Party 44 per cent of the vote against 25 per cent for the Conservatives.

The Communist Alliance of Liberals and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) trailed with 19 per cent.

"The long dark night of Thatcherism is coming to an end," proclaimed victorious Labour candidate Nick Raynsford, 41.

"It is a decision that is going to send Mrs. Thatcher on the route to becoming the next prime minister," he said.

But the Conservatives, who had expected to lose the seat, still hold a massive 137 overall majority in parliament and said the 10.8 per cent swing to Labour was not enough to guarantee their opponents victory in the next general elections.

Party Chairman Norman Tebbit said by-elections in Britain always produced distorted swings against the governing party.

"This result was simply not good enough to be on track to defeat us in the next general elections," he said.

Mrs. Thatcher, who will be seeking a record third term in elec-

tions due by 1988, said: "We should like to have won obviously, but it is a typical mid-term election."

"We have had this kind of thing happen mid-term before and we have usually won them back," Mrs. Thatcher said.

The Fulham election, brought about by the death last year of the constituency's Conservative Member of Parliament Martin Stevens, was the first test of voter strength since Mrs. Thatcher's government was rocked by a ministerial crisis in January.

The crisis over the proposed sale of the Westland Helicopter Company to a U.S.-led consortium dented Mrs. Thatcher's image of resolute leadership and Mr. Tebbit acknowledged that it had some impact in Fulham.

"Losing two cabinet ministers is untidy. We're still in the backwash

of the Westland affair," Mr. Tebbit said.

Labour concentrated its campaign on the wider issues of Mrs. Thatcher's seven-year rule, above all on cuts in public services and on the number of unemployed which has trebled since she took office to more than three million.

Former Conservative Prime Minister Edward Heath, an outspoken critic of Mrs. Thatcher, warned her she was making a mistake to write off the result as "mid-term blues."

"The fact about this by-election is that it does show, at this point, Labour could get an overall majority," he said.

Mr. Stevens won Fulham for the Conservatives in 1983 with a 4,789 majority. Mr. Raynsford recaptured it for Labour with a 3,503 majority. The seat had been a traditional Labour stronghold.

Bhutto: We could have seized power

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto said Friday her party could have seized power Thursday but preferred a peaceful change instead.

She told a news conference that the massive crowds which greeted her on return from over two years of exile Thursday could have been used to seize power.

"We could have taken power yesterday in Pakistan. But the cost would have been too high," she said.

Ms. Bhutto, daughter and political heir of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, repeated her call for immediate and fair elections in a peaceful revolution which, she said, her reception showed the Pakistani people wanted.

She leads her father's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the main force in the 11-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) alliance opposed to the limited democracy introduced by President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq last year after holding party-less elections.

Gen. Zia, who seized power in a 1977 coup, ended 8-1/2 years of martial law last December but remains president and chief of the army.

Ms. Bhutto said Thursday's crowd, which she claimed numbered up to five million, could have been used to seize power. She said she would have been burned down the cantonment, houses of government ministers, the provincial assembly and the governor's house that it passed during the 10-hour procession from the airport to a park where she held a public rally.

"But my party does not want to stand for violence, for bloodshed. We want to stand for freedom, for justice," she said. "Even in our darkest days, we stood for peaceful change."

She called on the government to give a date for free and fair elections on a party basis rather than the controlled polls that parties were banned from contesting in February 1985.

Although she led the rally crowd, which she estimated at two million, in chants of "Zia must go, Zia must go," Ms. Bhutto said she wanted the president to step aside peacefully.

"The way to go is not the way of violence, of disgrace," she said in a clearly conciliatory message to the man who overthrew her father. "We can have a change through the system."

Ms. Bhutto looked poised and confident as she answered questions from journalists.

Witnesses at Thursday's rally, probably the biggest ever held in this city of four million people, estimated the crowd at about 250,000.

Ramos seeks amnesty for erring soldiers

MANILA (Agencies) — Military Chief Gen. Fidel Ramos said he welcomed any investigation into human rights violations committed by troops but also suggested amnesty for them.

"We welcome any investigation especially because it is our good name that is always pilloried... even if it is only an isolated offence of an individual," he told a group of businessmen.

A commission on human rights has been created to look into cases of violations by the military during the 20-year rule of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

Answering a query during the open forum, Gen. Ramos said: "The matter of human rights violations by the Communist New People's Army should also be looked into."

"And should there be a double investigation of these violations, perhaps there should also be a double kind of amnesty that should be offered," he said.

But Gen. Ramos, who together with Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile led the civilian-backed military rebellion that brought President Corason Aquino to power in February, said Communist insurgents were still a potent force and continued to pose a threat to the country's stability.

The government has offered a ceasefire to the rebels, who expressed willingness to have peace talks but without any conditions. There has been no definite position on amnesty for the rebels.

About 5,000 people were killed in insurgency-related clashes last year.

Asked if Washington were pressuring the government to take military action against the insurgency, Gen. Ramos said: "We in the armed forces will be the first to tell you that the problem out there is not a military problem and therefore cannot be solved through military means alone."

"The insurgency problem did not arise out of military issues but was a result of distortions in society. The approach should be multi-disciplinary in character."

He added: "But we will welcome military aid of whatever amount. Of course, the bigger the more welcome."

During lighter moments during the open forum, Gen. Ramos said in jest that he would be glad to work as a private security guard

because of the better pay. "The income of a soldier and policeman has always been low compared to that of a private security guard. I would be glad to work as a private security officer any time because of the emoluments and they are only on call eight hours a day."

Leaders of 500 former Communist rebels said Friday that they will try to persuade more than 1,000 other guerrillas on Negros Island to surrender.

The former guerrillas, studying farming at a rehabilitation camp in Canlon, 528 kilometres south of Manila, said they will urge rebels of the New People's Army and an independent group to quit the insurgency.

They spoke during a visit by Political Affairs Minister Antonio Cuenco.

Brig. Gen. Dionisio Tiao-Gatue, the military commander of Negros, said: "I hope to sit down soon with government agencies that will identify the needs of the returnees and assess their willingness to lead normal lives."

He said the 500 rebels, receiving instruction in a programme sponsored by the military, surrendered on March 28.

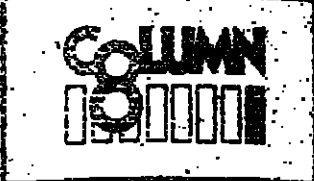
Mr. Cuenco said he accepted the surrender on Thursday of 36 hardcore Communist guerrillas, 60 "part-time rebels" and about 1,000 peasant sympathisers on Cebu Island.

Meanwhile, a political ally of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos Friday escaped from military prison where he had been detained on murder charges, military headquarters said.

A spokesman said Rolando Dulay, former member of parliament and head of Marcos' New Society Movement in a northern Philippine province, escaped from his cell in the headquarters of the paramilitary constabulary in a Manila suburb.

Dulay, also a former provincial governor of Ilocos province, surrendered on March 12 after the Justice Ministry filed charges against him for the killing of people who campaigned for President Corason Aquino in the Feb. 7 election.

The spokesman did not give details on the escape but said Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile had ordered a hunt for Dulay.



'Queen Mum' joins trade union

LONDON (AP) — Britain's Queen Mum, 85-year-old mother of Queen Elizabeth II, has joined the nation's biggest trade union, the 1.4 million-strong Transport and General Workers Union, as an honorary member.

Union General Secretary Ron Todd said he was delighted she had decided to join following a visit to London's Smithfield Meat Market last month. During the visit she was made an honorary "bummer" or meat porter, a job traditionally covered by membership of the union, and Todd subsequently wrote inviting her to join his union.

Officially titled Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother but known affectionately to Britons as the Queen Mum, she wrote back saying she accepted with "special happiness," Todd said. "She must be the one person revered across the country. I am quite certain our members will be delighted that the Queen Mother has joined our ranks," added Todd, a committed left-winger.

Sketch by Queen Victoria exhibited

LONDON (R) — A sketch drawn by Queen Victoria when she was 10 years old had its first public showing Friday in an exhibition at Buckingham Palace alongside drawings by Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. Queen Victoria, who reigned over the British Empire for more than 60 years during the last century, was a keen artist and her pencil drawing of a girl carrying baskets, as well as a previously exhibited pastel drawing by her, went on display in the Queen's Gallery. The exhibition of 149 drawings, ranging from the early renaissance to the present day, were selected from more than 30,000 drawings and watercolours in Queen Elizabeth's royal collection, reputed to be the largest private art collection in the world.

China plans mass exodus of poor

PEKING (R) — China is planning a mass exodus of millions of people from poverty-stricken areas for resettlement in other parts of the country, the official China Daily has said. The newspaper said that an estimated 70 million people live below the official poverty line of 200 yuan (\$62.50) income a year, mostly in remote mountainous parts of west China.

Thumb man gets pinched

HONG KONG (R) — A 33-year-old man blamed his uncontrollable right thumb for repeated indecent assaults on women. Cheung Yung-Fak told a court he had been unable to control his wandering thumb since childhood — and it wasn't his fault that it pinched a woman's bottom as he helped her out of a taxi on St. Valentine's Day. Magistrate Michael Hill was not impressed. He sentenced Cheung to nine months in jail after hearing that he pinched the same woman in the same place a month later and had six previous convictions for the same offence.

Australian faces increase in 'lust' killings

SYDNEY (R) — Australia faces the danger of an increase in "lust" killings, fuelled in part by sex and sadistic films, a leading criminologist has said. Dr. Paul Wilson, assistant director of the Australian Institute of Criminology, told a police meeting that his forecast was based on three years of research on sex-related murders here and in the United States. Wilson expressed serious concern over easy access to pornographic and sadistic films and videos. "Convicted sex killers have told me that they have been influenced by this type of film," he said. He

Thailand bans foreigners with AIDS

BANGKOK (R) — Foreigners suspected of carrying the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) will be banned from entering Thailand, an Interior Ministry spokesman has said. The spokesman said on radio that a new ministerial regulation had added AIDS to a list of diseases whose carriers were not allowed to enter the country. He did not say how the new rule would be implemented.

Western allies postpone security talks

WEST BERLIN (R) — Western security talks Friday postponed a second day-level meeting on Saturday after an attack amid growing tensions between U.S. and Soviet officials over future security arrangements, allied sources said.

They said U.S. and British and French military commanders, charged with security here under a 1945 occupation agreement, put off talks until Friday because it was too late to seek a settlement.

The United States, backed by Britain, has been pushing for a ban on East German diplomats from West Berlin.

France insisted there was no chance of linking the diplomatic ban to the Sunday's bomb blast in West Berlin. The attack, which killed two people and wounded an American soldier, was the first in the city since the war.

All three parties consulted their capitals Thursday night after an unsuccessful day of negotiations.

An allied spokesman confirmed Friday's meeting had been postponed but would not give any reasons.

One Western diplomat said frustration was growing among the allies over failure to reach an agreement six days after the attack. "The situation looks quite grim," one official said.

Western diplomats said U.S. officials have told British and French colleagues at the Kommandatura — the inter-allied coordination council — they received intelligence reports late last month of two planned attacks on U.S. targets. The warnings were passed to Soviet authorities in East Berlin.

They said that shortly before the attack, U.S. military officials received notice of an impending action but failed to head off the blast at the La Belle Discotheque.

On Saturday, U.S. officials had handed in a protest at the Soviet embassy in East Berlin, which was rejected.

Both the Soviet authorities, formally responsible for East Berlin security in the Western view, and the East German government deny any involvement in the bombing.

U.S. officials insist the Libyan Peoples Bureau (embassy) in East Berlin constitutes a security threat to West Berlin.

However, Western diplomats here say a formal banning order would be difficult to enforce since permanent customs controls on the Western border to East Berlin could undermine allied arguments that the division of Berlin has no legal foundation.

Police step up action in Punjab

JULLUNDUR, India (R) — At least 11 people were shot dead in clashes between police and Sikh extremists after Punjab's police chief vowed to match gunmen bullet for bullet.

"If the terrorists are making their hit lists and hit squads we will retaliate with our own hit lists and hit squads," Julio Ribeiro said in the Punjab town of Batala Thursday. Extremists would be matched "bullet for bullet," he said.

Ribeiro was sent to Punjab last month to tackle violence which has claimed at least 130 lives in the last five weeks.

Police shot dead four extremists Thursday as they tried to infiltrate an area near the Pakistan border known as a militant stronghold.

In another incident police killed three extremists in a raid on farmhouses near the industrial city of Jullundur, which has been badly hit by the upsurge of violence in Punjab.

The police action came after an extremist attack on a train near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar in which three people were killed.

Two of the policeguards — routinely posted on Punjab trains since extremists started a campaign for a separate Sikh nation — died instantly in a hail of machine-gun fire.

In another incident extremists firing from a car killed a policeman and wounded his brother near Amritsar.

Ribeiro said a massive police search for extremists ahead of a harvest festival on Sunday would continue until every troublemaker was found.

U.S. senator introduces bill to block Stingers for rebels

WASHINGTON (R) — Legislation that would prevent the Reagan administration from providing sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles to rebels in Angola and Afghanistan was introduced in the Senate.

The administration has decided to provide several hundred advanced, shoulder-fired Stingers anti-aircraft missiles to Afghan Mujahideen rebels and to Angola's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

"I have strong reservations whether these are the type of people we want handling the ultimate terrorist weapon," said Arizona Democrat Dennis Deconcini, who proposed the legislation.

In the wake of the recent bombings in the West Berlin discotheque and aboard the TWA flight, what assurances do we have that these missiles will not end up in the hands of some terrorist organization?" he said.

A U.S. soldier died in last Saturday's discotheque bombing, and four Americans were killed in the TWA bombing.

Sen. Deconcini said he believed some Afghan rebel groups were linked to Shi'ite extremists in Iran, while UNITA rebels "claim to have shot down two or three civilian jetliners."

Austrian president studies U.N. file on Waldheim

VIENNA (R) — Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger Friday began studying the U.N. war crimes commission file on Kurt Waldheim, who said in a television debate Thursday night he expected it to reveal nothing new.

The former U.N. Secretary-General, candidate in the presidential election to succeed Mr. Kirchschlaeger on May 4, said: "I believe these documents will contain the same accusations which were already determined in 1948 to be unfounded."

Dr. Waldheim told a panel of television journalists he had never seen the U.N. dossier, which only governments may examine. "I do not expect anything new to come out of it, and I view this procedure with composure."

Mr. Kirchschlaeger took receipt of the slim secret file, flown in a sealed envelope to Vienna by special diplomatic courier Thursday, from Foreign Minister Leopold Graf.

Mr. Kirchschlaeger's office issued a brief statement saying he had received the U.N. dossier, as well as a file from the World Jewish Congress (WJC) containing a "large number" of documents on the former German army.

New Zealand may agree to deport 2 French spies

SYDNEY (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange may agree to deport two French spies jailed over the mining of the Rainbow Warrior protest ship last year, an Australian television network reported Friday.

The SBS-TV network said in an exclusive interview Mr. Lange had stated for the first time that Wellington might allow the secret agents to serve the rest of their sentences in one of France's overseas territories.

"I think we have a possibility of negotiating a different type of detention in France or elsewhere," he was quoted as saying.

The network said that when questioned further, Mr. Lange said "France has a lot of territories," suggesting the two agents could serve the remainder of their 10-year terms for manslaughter in a French territory.

France has admitted ordering the mining of the Rainbow Warrior, flagship of the Greenpeace environmental group, to stop it from sailing into its South Pacific nuclear test zone. One crew member was drowned when the ship sank in Auckland Harbour last July.

The arrest and jailing of the two

U.S. senator introduces bill to block Stingers for rebels

WASHINGTON (R) — Legislation that would prevent the Reagan administration from providing sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles to rebels in Angola and Afghanistan was introduced in the Senate.

The administration has decided to provide several hundred advanced, shoulder-fired Stingers anti-aircraft missiles to Afghan Mujahideen rebels and to Angola's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

"I have strong reservations whether these are the type of people we want handling the ultimate terrorist weapon," said Arizona Democrat Dennis Deconcini, who proposed the legislation.

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BOREN BRIDGE

THIS WEEK'S WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1 — South vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q2 — North vulnerable, as North you hold:

Q3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q7 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q8 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q9 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q10 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q11 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q12 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q13 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q14 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q15 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q16 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q17 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q18 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q19 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

Q20 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

